

Assad says Israel plans Euphrates-to-Nile state

DAMASCUS (AP). — President Hafez Assad yesterday accused Israel of plotting to occupy the Arab world from "the Nile to the Euphrates" and declared Syria will spare no effort to achieve a military balance with the Jewish state.

Assad spoke at a rally at Damascus's Fatha Stadium marking the 23rd anniversary of the Baath Party's rise to power in Syria.

He criticized U.S. support, particularly economic assistance, for Israel.

"We in Syria do not receive billions from anybody, but we are determined to strive until we reach parity with our enemy," Assad said in an hour-long speech frequently interrupted by applauding crowds.

"Our enemy wants our land, wants to subjugate us and wants to achieve the Zionist dream of building greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates," he said.

"They are three million and despite their huge economic difficulties, they have the biggest rate of spending on armaments in the entire world," the president said.

He listed all the names of Lebanese suicide car-bombers who have attacked Israeli troops in South Lebanon in recent years and indicated that Syria helped train the zealots.

"The Syrian Army is the school of martyrdom and we shall keep this spirit for generations to come," Assad declared.

By ROY ISACOWITZ: Prime Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday that he was not worried by Syrian threats.

He reminded Assad that Israel had never attacked Syria, and said that, whatever the military balance, "the defender has a moral and motivational advantage." Israel, he said, would continue to strengthen its army and pursue the goal of living within its own borders, "taking into account demography and security."

Jacob Javits dies at 81

By WALTER RUBY: Jacob Javits, who began life in a Lower East Side tenement and became one of the most respected Jewish political leaders in the U.S. died Friday afternoon of a heart attack in Florida.

Javits, who was 81, was in Florida on vacation. Although he has suffered for more than five years from a degenerative nerve ailment known commonly as "Lou Gehrig's disease," Javits had been in relatively good health recently, according to



Jacob Javits (U. Keren)

his sister-in-law Lily. Javits's wife Marion arrived at Good Samaritan Hospital in West Palm Beach shortly after doctors there pronounced him dead.

Javits, who had supported the Socialist Party as a young man, eventually chose the Republican Party over the Democrats because of disgust with the corruption of the Democratic Tammany Hall machine which ran New York City in the 1920s and 1930s when he was entering politics. But despite his Republican affiliation, Javits was a strong liberal throughout his 24 years as senator from New York.

Javits played a key role in drafting several civil-rights bills, as well as landmark legislation in areas such as

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Bus and taxi fares up today

Bus and taxi fares go up today by about 25 per cent, as part of the government's subsidy-cutting policy.

Urban bus rides that cost NIS .40 will cost NIS .50, and NIS .60 rides will go up to NIS .80. A round-trip Jerusalem-Tel Aviv fare goes up from NIS 5 to NIS 6.2, and a round-trip Tel Aviv-Haifa ticket will be NIS 3.9 instead of NIS 3.2.

Multiple-ride tickets purchased previously will remain valid.

Taxi fares will go up by a maximum of 25 per cent, with the initial fare on the meter NIS 1.6. Shared taxi fares also go up, with the cost of a trip from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv now set at NIS 3.4 during the day, and NIS 4.2 at night.



All smiles at a pre-convention meeting of Herut ministers in Jerusalem on Friday morning. Clockwise: Ariel Sharon, Haim Corfu, Moshe Katsav, Yitzhak Shamir, Moshe Arens and David Levy.

PLO criticizes Hussein, but won't sever ties

Post Middle East Staff

The PLO Executive Committee and the central committee of Fatah concluded their meeting in Tunis yesterday on a note of compromise, deciding neither to sever ties with Jordan's King Hussein nor strengthen those ties.

A carefully worded statement issued after the meeting stressed that the PLO supported the maintenance of "special and balanced" ties between Palestinians and Jordanians, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

But the statement also berated Hussein for blaming the Palestinian leadership for the failure of talks aimed at a common front in future Middle East peace talks.

Notwithstanding the criticism of Hussein, the statement was a clear victory for chairman Yasser Arafat, who sought to avoid widening the split with Hussein. Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's political department, had urged the organization to sever all ties with Jordan.

The statement followed four days of talks on Hussein's recent decision to suspend political coordination with the PLO leadership.

King Hassan of Morocco yesterday urged the PLO to form a

government-in-exile to increase its credibility and prestige, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Speaking at a press conference in Marrakech, he said he believed that the PLO did not support terror. But, the king said, it had lost some of its credibility in the past few months because of the conflicting policies among the Palestinian groups towards terrorism. The formation of a government-in-exile, he said, would end this conflict.

Hussein warned last week that Israel's "expansionist designs went beyond the occupied territories and could ultimately threaten Jordan's national security." The king's remarks, reported in the *Jordan Times*, were made to a "large" delegation from Jerusalem at the royal court.

Western observers in Amman said they did not believe that Jordan would oust the PLO from the country but thought Jordan would gradually increase pressure on the organization and make life difficult for its Amman-based officials.

West Bank Palestinians who returned from Amman on Friday were told by a senior PLO official there

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Visitor shot in Old City as attacks increase

By BARBARA AMOUYAL and JOSHUA BRILLIANT

A 50-year-old American tourist was lightly injured by gunfire Friday evening as he was returning from prayers at the Western Wall.

David Blumenfeld, executive director of the New York Holocaust Commission, was hit when pistol shots ricocheted off a wall on David Street and struck his head.

Blumenfeld had been sent to Israel by New York state and city officials to do the research necessary to set up a Holocaust Museum in New York City. He was alone at the time of the shooting. He told police that he had heard several shots. Police said they had seen three young men running away shortly after the shooting.

Police and Border police closed off the Old City to search for the gunmen. They found the weapon near the site of the shooting and arrested several dozen suspects, all East Jerusalem residents. One suspect was still in custody last night; but police expect to release him shortly.

Blumenfeld, who was wearing a skullcap at the time, told *The Jerusalem Post* that his assailants had attacked him "because I represented the Jewish people... They want to instill fear in all Jews visiting the Old City, but the shooting won't dissuade me from visiting here another dozen times."

Blumenfeld was released Friday night from Hadassah Ein Karem Hospital. He plans to return to New York on Tuesday.

There have been 76 stonings and demonstrations in the territories in the two weeks since King Hussein's speech declaring an end to efforts to form a joint front with the PLO on Middle East peace talks. This is a sharp rise over the 43 such incidents in the previous fortnight.

Since the murder of Nabulsi mayor Zafar al-Masri a week ago, the security authorities have detained close to 200 people suspected of links with terrorist organizations, particularly George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The PFLP is believed to have been behind the assassination.

All but some 10 to 20 people have been released. The remainder are being held in the Fatah detention camp but none is suspected of having actually fired the fatal shots.

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Shultz backs Peres on growth plan

By ROY ISACOWITZ, Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — Prime Minister Peres has received the support of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz for his campaign to stimulate economic growth.

On Friday, Peres received a letter from Assistant Secretary of State John Whitehead, saying that he and Shultz "agree that a growth strategy should be implemented in parallel with the ongoing stabilization programme."

Whitehead continued that the "truly impressive progress on the stabilization front," with the drop in oil prices and the decline in the strength of the dollar, "should make it all the more possible to begin implementing an appropriate growth strategy."

Peres revealed Whitehead's letter during a speech last night to the Labour Party's Tel Aviv branch. Peres's speech was punctuated by sarcastic references to the Likud's stewardship of the economy and a strong attack on Likud MK Haim Kaufman, chairman of the coalition executive, who on Friday called for an inquiry into the causes of the financial crisis in Solel Boneh and Kupat Holim Clalit, both Histadrut affiliates.

"There is a limit to gall," Peres said. "Should Kaufman be the investigator or the investigated?" This

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Interest rates due to go down

Post Economic Reporter: Interest rates are due to go down by 0.5-1 per cent in line with the government's policy of speeding the reduction in interest rates.

Government sources said last week that the cabinet would ask the Bank of Israel to reduce the rates by 0.5 per cent on the prime rate, which stands at 1.75 per cent a month. The effective cost of free credit will thus be cut by 1 per cent, bringing it to some 3 per cent.

The reduction in interest rates is expected to drive owners of cash reserves out of short-term shekel deposits, such as Tapas and Pakam. This will put further pressure on commercial banks which have recently been overstepping liquidity margins.

Eleventh-hour bid to avoid Herut blow-up

By SARAH HONG, Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — The warring Herut factions are to continue their search all day today for a last-minute deal to prevent an internecine battle at the party convention which opens tonight.

The convention will start with a festive ceremony at Jerusalem's Binyanei Ha'uma. Among the guests of honour will be President Herzog and Premier Peres. (See story page 3.)

All efforts to resolve the power struggle among the factions of Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Housing Minister David Levy and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon, came to naught over the weekend, although faction leaders conferred on Friday with ministers Moshe Arens, Haim Corfu and Moshe Katsav (all of the Shamir camp).

If anything, the divisions were exacerbated when Levy, angrier than ever, claimed that the Shamir-controlled committee, which is empowered to co-opt 191 public figures as delegates, had selected over 150 pro-Shamir names, 20 from the Sharon faction, and only 10 who are identified with Levy.

Sharon proposed at the Friday meeting that the next Herut central committee, whose election is the convention's main business, be di-

vided equally among the three factions. The Shamir side, convinced that it has the support of almost half the delegates, considers this a Sharon ploy to get a greater slice of the party cake than he deserves.

Katsav suggested that the new central committee, which would choose Herut's next leader, consist of all convention delegates. This would increase its size from 1,000 to 1,900, but would remove the sting. When Friday's meeting failed to yield results, unofficial contacts between the factions began. They were still underway late last night.

Yesterday, the *ad hoc* Levy-Sharon alliance still appeared firm, despite efforts by the Shamir camp to strike a separate deal with Levy and leave Sharon in the cold. The Shamir camp continues to resist any compromise involving Sharon.

Speaking the anti-Sharon forces is Ze'ev Binyamin Begin, the former premier's son, who is particularly active in the Shamir camp and in efforts to make peace with Levy at Sharon's expense.

Shamir has not yet decided whether he wants to continue heading the Likud after the government's term of office, he told an Israel Radio interviewer yesterday. All contenders in Herut for the Likud leadership have assumed that Shamir would step out of the race after his post-rotation term as premier.

'Big Three' cut discount rate

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. Federal Reserve on Friday announced a reduction from 7.5 to seven per cent in its discount rate. The announcement follows similar moves in West Germany and Japan. The drop in the U.S. discount rate triggered a reduction in the prime rate by Chase Manhattan and Chemical Bank from 9.5 to 9 per cent.

Washington has been wanting to stimulate the economy by making borrowing less expensive. But the Federal Reserve feared that lowering credit rates would push the dollar down further and indirectly boost inflation.

However, Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker apparently had such fears quelled after West Germany dropped its discount rate Thursday and Japan lowered its rate Friday.

The U.S. discount rate, the interest the central bank charges on loans to financial institutions, even after Friday's drop, is one of the highest in the industrialized world. It is now at seven per cent against 3.5 in West Germany and four per cent in Japan.

France and the Netherlands also announced they were lowering their

(Continued on back page)

Murphy due in Cairo on peace mission

Mubarak raps Assad

CAIRO (AP). — President Mubarak pledged yesterday to continue moves towards democracy despite the recent security force riots. He denounced Syria for calling the disturbances a popular uprising against the Camp David accords.

Meanwhile, a U.S. Embassy source here reported that Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Richard Murphy would visit Egypt this week for talks with Mubarak and other officials on Middle East peace efforts. Murphy, who arrived in Tunis yesterday with Vice-President George Bush, would also visit Israel, it was reported.

In a nationally televised speech to parliament yesterday, Mubarak said that despite the unrest, he had never considered imposing restrictions on civil liberties or abandoning efforts to liberalize Egyptian political life.

Mubarak said claims by Syrian President Hafez Assad that the February 25 riots were a popular uprising against the 1978 Camp David agreement with Israel "are rejected by all Egyptians and do not

in any way reflect Egyptian sentiments and positions."

He blamed the unrest on "saboteur elements" who incited security force conscripts with rumours that their tours of duty were to be extended by one year.

Mubarak admitted that living conditions for the nearly 300,000-member security force were substandard. Conscripts in the force earn six Egyptian pounds (\$4) a month and live in primitive camps, many of them in the desert.

Mubarak later opened the 19th Cairo International Trade Fair and spent several hours touring the pavilions. Thirty-two countries are participating, including Israel, the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Prime Minister Peres last night welcomed Mubarak's statement defending the Camp David accords.

"Peace with Egypt is dependent on peace within Egypt," Peres said. Israel, he added, had an interest in a stable Egypt and certainly had no interest in seeing domestic trouble in that country.

Key 'international' post for suave envoy

Dobrynin change of job puzzles West

By MARK FRANKLAND: LONDON. — The appointment of Anatoly Dobrynin, veteran Soviet ambassador to the U.S., as secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee has presented Western diplomacy with a puzzle.

It is expected that Dobrynin will take over the Central Committee's International Department from the 81-year-old Boris Ponomarev. This switch of personalities is dramatic enough in itself. The most suave and self-assured of post-war Soviet envoys to the West replaces a man who made as much of his career before Stalin died as after it.

Ponomarev was the last member of the Soviet leadership to have fought in the civil war and had been an official of Stalin's Comintern. He wrote blood-curdling diatribes against Stalin's enemies and, more lately, edited the official history of the Soviet Communist Party, retouching the past to make it flatter each new leadership.

Dobrynin comes from another world. He has the knack, still rare for senior Soviet officials, of presenting the Soviet case without being aggressive or threatening. U.S. offi-



Dobrynin

cials have sometimes been alarmed by the ease with which Dobrynin moved around Washington. But attempts to hamper him always failed because it was so convenient to have such an agreeable and authoritative man from the Kremlin close at hand.

It is too early to say what Dobrynin's new Moscow job will entail. The International Department is sometimes called the real Soviet Foreign Ministry, where the party works out strategy that the diplomats must carry out.

But Andrei Gromyko's foreign

ministry never played second fiddle to Ponomarev's department. Gromyko was a full Politburo member; Ponomarev got stuck at candidate membership.

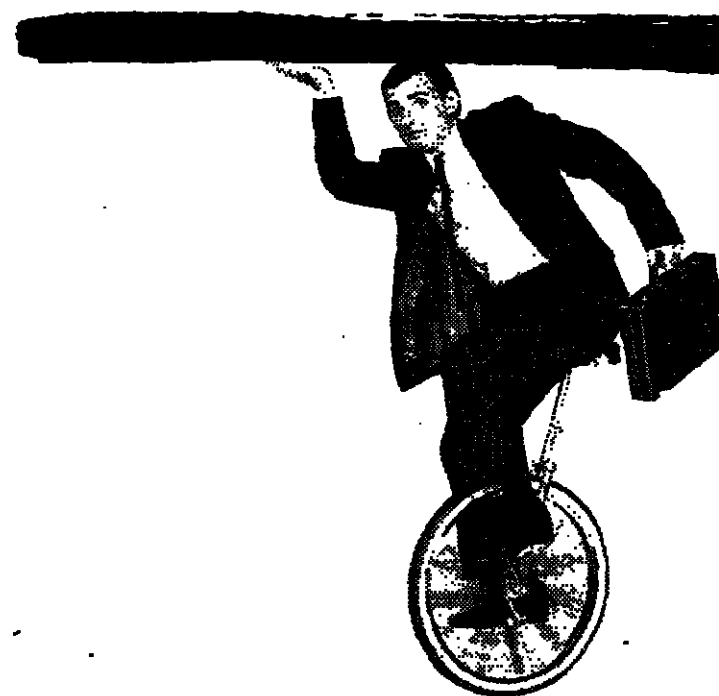
The International Department's most visible role is managing relations with Communist parties outside the Soviet bloc and also with governments in developing countries. Western social-democratic parties, churches, peace and other public movements that are seen as useful, if temporary, allies. This is an area where Dobrynin could apply his skills to great effect, particularly since it is a major aim of Gorbachev's diplomacy to make a world alliance of everyone worried by President Reagan and Star Wars. Up until now, Moscow has had no spokesman to the world who could match Dobrynin's combination of authority and affability.

Dobrynin's style allows many to forget that he is a Communist Party member as well as a diplomat. He has sat on the Central Committee for 20 years and has had far closer contact with the Politburo than most Central Committee members.

(Observer News Service)

Keether Barol

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Nearly 2,000 delegates will hint at preference as party convention opens

Act One begins tonight in fight for Begin's mantle

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Correspondent
TEL AVIV. — At 7:30 this evening, as the Herut convention officially opens, the curtain will rise on a political drama that has been awaited for seven years.

Conflict will be apparent as the protagonists walk on stage. As nearly 1,900 delegates assemble at Jerusalem's Binyanei Hauma, political observers will compare the length and strength of the applause that each of the three "stars," Yitzhak Shamir, David Levy and Ariel Sharon, receives.

This will be the first and simplest contest in the three-day convention, which may easily stretch into a fourth day. He who receives the most enthusiastic welcome will be judged as perhaps having the opening edge over his rivals.

This is a milestone convention for Herut. It is the first convention not to be held strictly on schedule; the last took place in 1979. But, more significantly, it is the first not to be presided over by Menachem Begin, who will

be absent from this year's proceedings. Herut will host Prime Minister Shimon Peres and President Chaim Herzog at the convention opening.

Having gauged the intensity of the welcome given to the contenders for Begin's throne, political observers will note something else not in keeping with party tradition. The party leader, who has always given the opening address, will have to share the stage tonight. Shamir will indeed make the keynote speech; but Levy, Sharon, and Moshe Arens, are also to "greet" the delegates. Levy and Sharon have insisted on this, threatening a crisis that would have marred the opening.

The first day of convention business in the Fair Grounds in Tel Aviv will start with dramatic action aplenty. Three important committees must be elected immediately to run the convention: the steering committee (which largely determines the composition of the incoming central committee), the mandates committee (which can add more delegates for a number of technical reasons), and

the presidium (which oversees the convention). Thus, battle for the control of all three committees will be joined immediately.

Levy has his eye on the chairmanship of the steering committee, knowing that the central committee which it shapes will elect the next party leader (a job he aspires to), and the Knesset list. Sharon will seek to head the mandates committee, and Sharon's recent ally, Yoram Aridor, will run for presidium chairman. Given their *ad hoc* alliance, Levy and Sharon are expected to support each other, and seek to foil Shamir's candidates. The most formidable of these, Moshe Arens, will be competing with Levy.

But most of the real action will take place behind the scenes. The plenary sessions will be taken up mostly with open debate, in which delegates can let off steam and enjoy a brief limelight.

Herut is no less ideological than ever it was, but since there are hardly any ideological differences among the protagonists, little action can be expected on issues of policy. The last convention was heated up by Geula

Cohen's opposition to the Camp David agreement, but this time only a few minor ideological nuances can be expected to divide delegates.

The convention's key business is the finding of a new leader, and even that will be done indirectly. No one will openly challenge Shamir's position as candidate for the premiership only seven months prior to rotation. But Levy and Sharon may foil his plan to succeed Begin as party chairman. Levy may stand himself, or may suggest that the position be divided among a number of candidates. He may also propose that no chairman be elected for the time being.

The convention could of course be robbed at the last minute of much of its anticipated excitement, if the rival factions come up with a peace agreement.

But that will only happen if at least one of the sides is convinced that it cannot muster a majority. Levy and Sharon are still maintaining that they did well in last month's internal party election to choose convention delegates. By week's end the real winner's identity should emerge.

Coalition could break up after rotation

IN PERSON
BENNY MORRIS

Citizens Rights Movement MK Yossi Sarid believes that the Peres-Shamir rotation will take place in seven months' time, but that the country will go to general elections in September 1987.

His reasoning is simple: rotation will occur because Peres has too little time, and no good reason, to break his agreement with the Likud. But the post-rotation Likud-led coalition, with Labour as junior partner, will be shaken from the start by continuous divisions and rows and Labour will easily "find" a good issue on which to break up the government.

"There is a basic asymmetry between the two phases of the national unity government," explains Sarid, who left the Alignment for the CRM after Labour agreed to the unity coalition. "The Likud, up to rotation, and to ensure that it takes place, has had to minimize each crisis and difference of opinion, to conciliate continually. But Labour, after October, will be seeking reasons to inflame and amplify differences and crises. So it won't last more than a few months."

Sarid points to one issue that could derail the rotation before October: elections in the West Bank and Gaza, which he strongly supports. The idea of Israeli appointees in the territories won't work, he thinks. But if the Palestinians are allowed to elect their own municipal and other officials — "as provided for in the Camp David agreements under the heading of 'an elected administrative council'" — the local inhabitants and leaders may agree.

Sarid raised the idea in a recent meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee meeting. Peres tentatively dismissed such elections on grounds of "wrong timing." But Sarid believes that Peres favours the idea — Peres was the defence minister who organized the West Bank municipal elections of 1976 — if he could overcome internal Alignment opposition, which centres on Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

An "added bonus" of the idea, suggests Sarid, is that it would be unpalatable to the Likud, who may be forced to bolt the coalition, thus killing the rotation agreement. Sarid believes that, subsequently, such elections could be "sold" to the Israeli electorate. And the election of

local officials, "in coordination with Jordan, which would coordinate it with the PLO," could pave the way for signing a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the start of Israeli-Jordanian peace talks.

But it's just an idea, and Sarid isn't at all hopeful about its prospects. "Our job," he says of himself, "has been historically to say, to broach things that have long been taboo in Israeli society, to the extent that they gain legitimacy and currency. We lie on the barbed wire [so that the other soldiers can cross over it on our backs]. For example, the idea of Palestinian self-determination. In 1974, it was just unthinkable. Today, it is a legitimate subject of argument in Israeli society."

I asked him about his move from the Alignment to the CRM. "I feel comfortable about having left the Alignment. I don't have to check my backbone every morning to see whether it's still there, or bent. When



Yossi Sarid (Uzi Kerem)

I look at myself in the morning (once a day when I shave) I don't have to feel like throwing up," he says. "That's on a personal level. Politically, which is what counts, if, in the coming elections, the CRM emerges with four seats (its present strength in the Knesset) then it's all right."

But Sarid hopes for more. He hopes that the party will receive enough votes in September 1987 so that the Alignment, putting together a left-centre coalition, will have to include the CRM. "Then we'll leave an imprint on the government. That's my political goal."

Haifa's Rushmiya bridge needs urgent repairs

HAIFA. — The Rushmiya road and pedestrian bridge, the only eastern thoroughfare to and from the city's Hadar HaCarmel quarter, may have to be closed soon for urgent repairs.

A survey by experts of the Technion's building materials testing centre has found that water seepage has undermined the bridge's foundations.

City engineers are examining ways of making the repairs, expected to cost around \$350,000, without closing the bridge to traffic. Meanwhile, the municipality spokesman said the bridge is safe.

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SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT No. 6
ZUBIN MEHTA conductor
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Series 1: Saturday, 15.3.86
Series 2: Sunday, 16.3.86
Series 3: Monday, 17.3.86
Series 4: Tuesday, 18.3.86
Series 5: Wednesday, 19.3.86
Series 6: Thursday, 20.3.86

SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT No. 6
ZUBIN MEHTA conductor
URI PLANKA violinist
JERUSALEM, Binyanei Hauma
Saturday, 22.3.86, 8.30 p.m.
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Programme of works by Arne, Bizet, De Falla, Handel, Purcell, Rossini, Schubert
TEL AVIV, Mann Auditorium
Saturday, 22.3.86, 8.30 p.m.

San Francisco mayor loses her heart in Jerusalem

By ESTHER HECHT
for The Jerusalem Post
San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein came to Israel last week to do business with Haifa — her hometown's twin city — but she lost her heart in Jerusalem.

During her six-day tour, which ended on Friday night with a visit to the Western Wall, the mayor signed a port-call agreement with the Haifa-based Zim navigation company. The deal will bring millions of dollars of new business to her city and will save Zim about \$500,000 annually in port charges.

The accord concludes five years of negotiations to woo Zim from San Francisco's rival, Oakland, and is part of Feinstein's plan to revive the city's maritime trade. "Many people believe that where Zim goes others will follow," she said.

The mayor also signed a 14-point memorandum of agreement with Haifa Mayor Arye Gurel, covering exchanges in culture, education, science, business and urban technology.

But when asked what had impressed her most on this, her first visit, Feinstein replied: "The impact of Jerusalem is just phenomenal, beyond anything I could have antici-

pated. The roots of most of the Western and Eastern world are here, and Israel has done such a good job in allowing absolute freedom to various peoples to maintain their shrines." In the Old City market, she said she was entranced by "the produce, the free economic enterprise, the number of people." But, ever the mayor, she also enquired about sewer drainage and litter.

Feinstein toured with an entourage of 10, which included her husband, Richard Blum; port and city officials; and members of the San Francisco-Haifa Sister City Committee.

The party also visited Tel Aviv and the West Bank. Feinstein met Prime Minister Peres and leading figures of all political persuasions.

She denied that her trip here was linked to any national political aspirations. "I'm not considering myself a candidate for any federal office," she said. But, she added, "I'm not wiping any option off the map."

The visit was part of her duties as the mayor of an international city, "trying to do her best for friendship and understanding in a few practical ways," she said.

Feinstein, 52, a Democrat and the



Dianne Feinstein (IPPA)

first woman mayor of her city, succeeded to office in December 1978 after mayor George Moscone (and city supervisor Harvey Milk) had been murdered by a disgruntled municipal employee. She then won the mayoral race in 1979, receiving solid backing from the city's large homosexual community.

In 1983, a radical pro-gun group, the White Panther Party, launched a referendum to unseat her because

of her efforts to ban handguns. But she overcame that challenge successfully, defeating the referendum with an 84 per cent vote in her favour. In November 1983, she was re-elected as mayor, with an 82 per cent majority.

San Francisco is one of the cities most affected by Aids, but Feinstein is proud of its lead in developing a comprehensive programme to deal with the deadly disease. "We committed more dollars to fighting Aids than any city in America."

But she was stymied in one effort to prevent the spread of Aids when the order closing the city's bathhouses was reversed by local courts. Nevertheless, she points out, the number of new Aids cases in San Francisco has reached a plateau.

Feinstein presides over a population that is unusually heterogeneous even for America. Twenty-five per cent are Asian, their numbers having swollen recently by the influx of Vietnamese boat people. Twelve per cent are black, 13 per cent Hispanic and 10 per cent are Jewish. There are also large Irish and Russian communities.

It was thus hardly surprising that Feinstein was so appreciative of Mayor Teddy Kollek's achievements

in presiding over a heterogeneous city. After a tour of ancient and holy sites with Yitzhak Ya'acoby, director of the East Jerusalem Development Company, she said, "Teddy Kollek is probably the greatest mayor in the world. He has managed over two decades to keep peace in a city which has the potential for tremendous volatility."

On the matter of a Palestinian homeland, she commented, "I think that the homeland issue is a justifiable issue, and it has to be met in a way that Israel is recognized and is able to survive as a democracy in this country."

Feinstein confirmed that she would honour her commitment to Soviet Jewish activists in San Francisco not to pursue sister-city relations with Leningrad until there were "certain changes on the emigration of Soviet Jewry. The sister-city relationship is meant to be apolitical, and it's not practical to have a relationship that brings about a lot of turmoil and conflict."

After expressing her commitment on this issue, the mayor was taken aback at the suggestion that, were she to immigrate to Israel, she would not be considered a Jew, as her mother was not Jewish. "I was confirmed in the Jewish faith at the age of 13. I am a member of a temple in San Francisco and always have been," she said. "The world will regard me as a Jew."

More police officers going 'private'

By YORAM GAZIT
for The Jerusalem Post

A large electronic equipment company recently complained to the police about a series of thefts from its staff during work hours. The police opened a file on the case, but as the thefts continued, the company approached private investigator Amnon Gitai, until 1983 head of the special intelligence unit in the Tel Aviv district police. Gitai's agency, Agaf 83, exposed a group specializing in wallet and handbag snatching, whose members had been entering the company's grounds as if they were employees.

This is one of hundreds of cases which the police has neither time nor personnel to invest in solving. Growing numbers of individuals and companies are thus forced to turn to private investigators if they want action.

Police ranks have been severely depleted over the past few years by the resignations of experienced officers who have left to open private investigation agencies. And the agencies have, in turn, created jobs for more officers and policemen wishing to resign.

The reasons behind the resignations are, for the most part, cumulative frustration with what is seen as police incompetence; a shortage of cars, personnel, equipment and, often, time to solve cases; the slow pace of promotion; the low social status of the police force and, perhaps most important, low salaries.

Hence police detectives leave to do the only thing they know: investigation.

"A policeman has authority to arrest people," one private detective explained, "but no social status, no salary he can live on in a dignified way. So naturally, if he has a chance, he'll take something on the side. But that's not the point. The point is that due to lack of resources, police operations are postponed or cancelled. "Even when a private detective brings the police hard evidence

against someone, criminals are not arrested because the police are 'busy' with something else," he said.

One of the most colourful detectives to have left the Tel Aviv police and go into private business is Eli Dadon, nicknamed "the terror of the underworld." Known in the force as "007" because of daring escapades, Dadon operates from a newly opened office called "The central unit," the police unit from which he resigned.

Dadon can talk for hours on police "bungling." Three years ago, he says, he was hired by an insurance company to trace a stolen container with 300 video systems. With police approval, Dadon contacted the gang that had staged the heist, and arranged to "buy" some of the stolen cases. Police detectives were supposed to follow the sellers back to their headquarters, where the rest of the videos were hidden. But the police, Dadon says, never showed up.

Dadon waited several hours, and, when he called the officer in charge, he was told that the police "didn't have enough cars."

Dadon's book *Policeman in a Trap*, to be published today, reveals several cases of police incompetence. But it also describes the frustrations of being a policeman, including one instance of police corruption. This was when he was sent, as head of an inquiry commission in 1975, to probe robberies from the Eilat Port, which the local police seemed unable to handle. Dadon writes that he discovered that Eilat policemen, some of them senior officers, together with customs officers and senior officers in national police headquarters, were involved in the theft.

"When we sought to continue the investigation, we received orders to desist, because the file was being transferred to national headquarters. The case was then closed, with some lower ranking policemen taking the rap. The head of the station was posted elsewhere, and two

others got four years jail." Such cases, together with red tape and interference from senior commanders, finally drove Dadon out of the force, he says.

Gitai, who claims he joined the police out of idealistic motives, left in 1983, after 13 years to join three other ex-police detectives in a private investigation agency. "Working all those years for the police, with long, unconventional hours, giving your all without decent compensation, wears you out," he explains. "You learn only one profession, detective work. So when you leave, the only thing you can do, and do well, is work as a private investigator."

Gitai's office is often asked to trace missing persons, especially those with debts in Israel, or to solve cases abroad. His partners are all former police officers.

The agency recently uncovered a fraud involving imported meat which had cost an Israeli insurance agency a large sum. The office found that an importer had been allowing a little of the meat to rot so that during the veterinarian's inspection in the port here, the whole container



Eli Dadon (Andre Bruttman)

would be stamped "unfit for human consumption."

The importer would then offer to buy the meat for a fraction of its price, supposedly for sale as dog food. He would then get rid of the rotten pieces and sell the rest as prime quality, while being compensated by the insurance company for the spoiled consignment.

Other veteran police officers have also opened private investigation agencies; they include Moshe Kedmi, David Danbirsh, Eli Dvir, Micha Rotem, Zalman Vardi, Yehuda Dori, Yigal Ankori, Havi Shweiki, Sami Nahmias and others.

Bogus rebbitzen charged with fraud

Rahel Kitro was charged on Friday with 86 counts of fraud and 84 counts of passing bad cheques. She allegedly cheated Jerusalem businessmen and yeshiva students out of \$100,000 while posing as a rebbitzen (rabbi's wife).

The charge sheet presented in the Jerusalem District Court said that Kitro, 30, had opened an office last December in the capital's Geula quarter, advertising that she would

provide financial aid for newly-wed couples. She allegedly took between \$3,000 and \$4,500 from the couples, supposedly as partial payment for household goods and for services connected with the wedding celebrations, saying that the remainder of the cost would be covered by charitable funds.

She also used bad cheques to obtain goods and services from dozens of businessmen. (Itim)

Arson suspect freed by court on bail

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A 22-year-old Ramat Gan man charged with setting fire to a Solel Boneh hut and sending threatening letters to the company had Kach literature in his home and police believe the letters were sent from the party's Tel Aviv office.

But police are not sure that there is a connection between Kach and the offences with which Yigael Elush has been charged. Elush was released on bail of NIS 200 by the magistrates court on Friday.

In a separate incident, Ya'acov Tsarfati, a 19-year-old Kach activist, was remanded for 10 days by the Haifa Magistrates Court for breaking into a local missionary's office and stealing books, which he allegedly intended to burn.

THE ISRAELI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

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DOCTOR PHILOSOPHIAE HONORIS CAUSA
UPON
Prof. IVO PITANGUY

In the presence of the Minister of Health
Mr. MORDECHAI (MOTTA) GUR
Lecture by the Recipient of the Degree
"The Surgical Treatment of Breast Deformities"
Monday, March 10, 1986, 6.30 p.m.
Mexico Building, Fastpitch Auditorium,
Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv.
— THE PUBLIC IS INVITED —
Parking through gate 8.

The Young Israel Center
Torah Education
Chavrusa and Minyan
Memorial Institute

Today,
March 9, at 8 p.m.
LECTURER:
Rabbi Shabtai Spero,
Irving I. Stone Chair in
Jewish Thought,
Bar Ilan University
SUBJECT:
Judaism and Aesthetics — II
VENUE:
Young Israel Center,
28 Shmuel Hanagid St.,
corner King George,
Jerusalem, Tel. 02-225152/3.

U.S. wants Soviets to let UN staff Moscow calls U.S. order 'hostile act against UN'

MOSCOW (AP). — The official U.S. agency Tass said yesterday that the U.S. order on reducing Soviet personnel at UN headquarters in New York was a hostile move in keeping with a campaign against the world body and socialist countries.

Tass did not indicate what the Soviet response might be. It said the order violated the U.S. agreement for hosting the UN headquarters and that UN lawyers were studying the issue.

It also commented that numerous countries have raised "quite justified doubts" about continuing to base the UN in New York.

The US has ordered the number of Soviet UN diplomatic personnel cut from 275 to 170 — a 38 per cent slash — by April 1, 1988. The US said the Soviet staffing level is unreasonably high and that personnel were engaged in espionage.

Tass referred to recent US actions against East Bloc diplomats as examples of attempts to impede their work.

Last September 15, the U.S. broadened its travel restrictions against personnel from Afghanistan, Vietnam, Iran, Cuba, Libya and the Soviet Union who work at the UN.

Waldheim rejects allegations Austrian president fears 'opening political graves'

Jerusalem Post Correspondents and Agencies

VIENNA. — President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger has stepped into the controversy over the alleged Nazi past of former UN secretary-general Kurt Waldheim, one of the men bidding to succeed him, and has warned against "opening political graves."

Kirchschlaeger, 70, who steps down as Austria's president after two terms in office, appealed for calm in the furor surrounding Waldheim, whom he succeeded as foreign minister in 1970, and who is one of the top two candidates for the presidency in election on May 4.

Speaking at a ceremony to celebrate World Freedom Day at Vienna's UN City Thursday night, Kirchschlaeger said, "Should we not fear that we might open political graves which can only be covered up again at great expense if at all, when we have to stand together again," he asked.

Waldheim wrote to the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and the New York Times on Friday totally rejecting allegations that he had a Nazi past.

In letters to the paper and to WJC President Edgar Bronfman, released in Vienna, he suggested the charges were linked to his candidacy for the Austrian presidential elections.

Waldheim's letters charged that there had been intentional misinter-

pretation of the facts to hurt his personal reputation.

"I was not a member of the SA or any other organization of the Nazi regime. Such allegations are apparently based on occasional participation in riding exercises during my studies at the Consular Academy in Vienna."

While admitting that he had served under Gen. Alexander Löhr in Greece and Yugoslavia in 1942-43, Waldheim maintained that "I had nothing whatever to do with... atrocities" against Greek Jews and Yugoslav partisans carried out by Löhr's troops. Löhr was executed in 1946 by the Yugoslavs as a war criminal.

Waldheim claimed that "independent sources have confirmed that my services as an interpreter and staff officer were completely unrelated to such tragic and deplorable events."

Waldheim added, "I have without hesitation permitted journalists to study my files as there is nothing in my personal history that I have to hide."

Meanwhile the opposition Austrian People's Party (ÖVP), which supports Waldheim in the forthcoming elections, has launched a pro-Waldheim campaign under the slogan "Now even more Austrians for Waldheim."

The party has bought prime time on radio and TV, saying that now is the time "to show people abroad that we stick to our candidate."

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Syrian Foreign Minister Faruk Sharaa (right) meets Thursday with former Austrian chancellor Bruno Kreisky during a three-day official visit to Austria. (AFP telephoto)

Syrian FM denies support for terrorist groups

Jerusalem Post Correspondents and Agencies

VIENNA. — Syrian Foreign Minister Faruk Sharaa has denied all allegations regarding support for Palestinian terrorist groups in his country.

"The offices of the Palestinian groups in Damascus exclusively serve political and information purposes. The people there are not even allowed to carry a pocket knife," he said. He also distinguished between terrorist attacks aimed at civilian targets and innocent people, and the "legitimate national resistance."

Sharaa's statement should be viewed in the context of Austrian allegations that the terrorists involved in the attack on Vienna Airport on December 27, 1985 came from Damascus.

Sharaa arrived here last week for a three-day official visit.

"We have given the Syrians binding evidence that the terrorists came from Damascus and if the Syrians

are not cooperative now, the consequences will be serious," Austrian Minister of Interior Karl Blecha has said.

Asked about training camps of the Abu Nidal organization in the Lebanese Bekaa Valley, Sharaa replied: "As we are not in control of the valley, we are not responsible for what happens there."

Also in Vienna now is Algerian Interior Minister Mohammed Hadj Yala who arrived on Wednesday for talks with Blecha.

Tomorrow, Farouk Kaddoumi, chief of the PLO's political department, will arrive in Vienna.

Sharaa, on a visit to London earlier in the week, was questioned at a press conference on his regime's support for the Abu Nidal terrorist group.

Syrian Foreign Minister Sharaa said that Syria would continue to give all possible assistance to Palestinian representatives "whether they

represent our views or not." Syria was duty bound to give such assistance to all Palestinians, even Arafat himself, though he conceded Syria had some "differences" with Arafat over ways of dealing with the internal crisis of the PLO.

British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe has criticized Syrian President Hafez Assad's recent speech calling for confrontation with Israel and a continuation of the armed struggle. Such comments, he told the House of Commons last week, were not likely to help peace efforts.

Howe was answering MPs' questions on his meeting earlier in the week with Sharaa. Recent developments in the Middle East were a setback and he cited Israel's recent incursion into Lebanon. He deplored the Israel Defence Forces continuing residual presence in South Lebanon, as well as the existence of the security zone.

CIA deputy-director quits

WASHINGTON (AP). — President Reagan has appointed career intelligence officer Robert Gates to replace deputy CIA director John McMahon, who resigned for "personal reasons" after 34 years in the intelligence service.

McMahon's resignation, announced by the White House late Tuesday, was hailed by two conservative lobbying groups. The Washington Post yesterday said the groups, Free the Eagle and the Federation for American-African Action, had mounted nationwide letter-writing campaigns calling for McMahon's removal.

The two groups blamed him for holding up supplies of more effective weapons, including anti-aircraft missiles, to the anti-Communist resistance in Afghanistan. The Post reported.

McMahon, 56, gave no explanation for his resignation other than to say in a letter to Reagan he had "reached a stage where I should move on." The White House statement cited "personal reasons" for the deputy's departure, which is to be effective March 29.

But The Post, quoting unidentified administration sources, said McMahon, who has opposed the Reagan Administration's expansion of cover operations in Third World conflicts, decided to leave after an inter-agency group decided to escalate four paramilitary operations.

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Libya seeking army recruits in Australia

LONDON. — Australian government officials are reported to be considering whether Libyan leaders seeking recruits for their armed forces violate federal law forbidding recruitment for the armed forces of a foreign country.

According to a Radio Australia report monitored here by the British Broadcasting Corporation, an Australian spokesman revealed that the Libyans were seeking what they called "freedom fighters" to join the fight "against Zionists and other enemies of the Moslem world."

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FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

No progress in Palme murder probe

STOCKHOLM (Reuters). — Swedish police have followed up hundreds of tips from the public after issuing a composite picture of the suspected murderer of Prime Minister Olof Palme, but no arrests have been made, a police spokesman said Friday.

He told Reuters a getaway car believed to have been used by the killer and an accomplice had still not been traced.

Police have released the picture of a man of Middle Eastern or South European appearance, based on drawings by an artist who saw a man running from the scene of the February 28 shooting.

Kurdish immigrants rejected charges that the underground Kurdish Workers' Party might have been involved in the murder. Newspapers on Thursday quoted security police as saying the party might have been responsible.

Madrid (AP). — Newspaper and magazine polls published last week indicate a plurality of Spaniards will vote against Spain's continued membership in Nato in a referendum on Wednesday.

The referendum question asks voters whether they approve of the government's decision to stay in the North Atlantic Alliance based on three conditions — that Spain not integrate its armed forces into the military command structure, it remain a nuclear-free zone, and negotiations continue toward reduction of U.S. troops in the country.

The only significant poll giving Nato a plurality — 28 per cent to 27 per cent — was conducted by the government-supported Centre for Sociological Research.

WASHINGTON (AP). — The Senate Budget Committee rejected President Reagan's fiscal 1987 budget Thursday, saying his spending plan for the U.S. government would exceed a \$144 billion deficit target required by law.

The vote was 16-6 against the president's plan, with only six of the panel's 12 Republicans voting in favour of it.

WASHINGTON (AP). — President Reagan has nominated James Fletcher, 66, to be administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa), a job he held from 1971 to 1977, the White House announced Thursday.

Fletcher, a physicist, will replace James Beggs, who resigned as Nasa head last month to defend himself against charges of financial irregularities allegedly committed when he headed General Dynamics, a large Pentagon supplier.

SANTA FE, New Mexico (AP). — Georgia O'Keeffe, whose colourful abstracts and clearly defined paintings of flowers and bones made her a leading figure in contemporary American art, died here on Thursday. She was 98.

Her best-known paintings were of flowers and skyscrapers or landscapes. She often used natural objects as her subjects: a pelvic bone outlined against the sky, rocks or bleached white animal skulls against the blues, purples, reds and flesh tones of the desert.

BOSTON (AFP). — The Aids virus has been found for the first in women's genital secretions in the U.S., apparently contradicting the widely held belief that women do not transmit the disease.

Medical teams from Boston and San Francisco have described in the latest edition of the British medical journal *The Lancet* how they isolated the Aids virus during tests on secretions taken from eight women.

Until now it was the standard view that the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome could only be transmitted by sperm or blood.

Out of 17,871 cases notified to the Atlanta Centre for Disease Control, only 43 men are believed to have caught the disease from women.

BONN (AFP). — Youngsters aged 14 to 17 are being trained as professional killers by an organization set up in West Germany by an admirer of the French Foreign Legion.

Count Rainer Rene Adelman von Adelmansfelder, a retired lawyer, formed the Association of West German Legionaries less than two years ago, and it already has some 700 members.

Most of the recruits, attracted by offers of "money and adventure" in magazines for weapons enthusiasts, are young men unable to find work after completing their national service, but the count admits that some are as young as 14.

Although the association is technically illegal because recruiting foreign forces is banned in West Germany, the count said the constitution guaranteed all citizens the right to seek work.

French police move Duvalier by night

TALLOIRES, France (AFP). — Escorted by police cars, Haiti's deposed dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier left here before dawn Friday holding a baby's milk bottle.

He was being discreetly moved to the southeastern corner of France, where he will be restricted until the French government can persuade some other country to grant refuge to its unwanted guest.

One-legged woman cleared of kicking policeman

MONTREAL (AFP). — A woman with only one leg has been cleared of kicking a policeman, but she admitted biting another "not far" from his genitals.

The charges arose from an incident that occurred when Mme Benoroch was taken to a police station for questioning about an allegation of damage caused by another person.

A scuffle broke out when she refused to hand over her cigarettes, and several policemen were called to deal with her.

Benoroch, who conducted her own defence, admitted biting a policeman in a "sensitive area" as several officers were holding her down and trying to put handcuffs on her, but she denied biting a policeman on the thumb.

TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL: 8.15 School Broadcasts 14.00 Praise to David (part 2) 14.25 Spoken Arabic 15.00 Everyman's University: Insects: The World of Chemistry: Flora and Fauna: Viewpoint 16.00 Rehov Sumsum 16.30 Ark (part 10) 17.00 A New Evening — live magazine

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES: 17.30 The Living Planet. Part 6 of a 12-part British nature film: The Baking Deserts ARABIC LANGUAGE programmes: 18.30 News round-up

18.32 The Incredible Hulk: The Tomb of the Unknown Hulk 18.50 Weekly News Magazine

HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at 20.00 with a news roundup 20.02 Till Pop — pop and entertainment magazine

21.00 Mabab Newsweek and Overseas Sports Review 21.45 Tender is the Night. Part 2 of a 6-part English drama serial based on the book by Scott Fitzgerald, starring Peter Strauss, Mary Steenburgen and Joris Stuyck

22.40 What's the Question? 23.20 Music — Victoria de los Angeles, soprano sings Spanish and Latin folk songs 23.50 News

JORDAN TV (unofficial): 17.30 Cartoons 18.00 French Hour 19.30 News in Hebrew 20.00 News in Arabic 20.30 Cablage Patch 21.10 End of Empire 22.00 News in English 22.20 Dempsey and Makepeace

MIDDLE EAST TV (from T.A. north): 13.00 Animals, Animals, Animals 13.30 Westwood Hospital 14.00 700 Club 14.30 Good News 15.00 Afternoon Movie 16.30 Children's Programme 17.00 Flying House 17.30 Muppets 18.00 Voyagers 19.00 News 20.00 Special 21.00 Family Ties 21.30 Movie 23.00 Good News

Voice of Music

6.05 Morning Melodies 7.07 Stephen Foster: Songs (Robert Shaw Chorale) 7.30 Schubert: 4 Impromptus, Op.90 (Perahia): Brahms: Claret Trio (Meyer,

ON THE AIR

Schiff, Buchbinder; Mozart: Piano Concerto in A major, K.414 (Ahtanazy); Bartok: Music for Strings, Percussions and Celesta (Mandyl)

9.30 Bach: Suite in E minor (Williams); Rameau: Music from "Ancorant"; Gluck: Excerpts from "Orfeo e Euridice" (Iglyndrom); Symphony No.4 (Vienna/Metal)

12.30 Sara Fuxon-Kayman, Bart Barman, duo-pianists — Weber: 6 Minutinos; Weber: Six Pieces, Op.10; Reger: Mozart Variations, Op.132

13.05 2 Great Loves of Josef Haydn: 8.3.1861: Death of Sir Thomas Beecham; 8.3.1868: Death of Hector Berlioz

18.00 Handel: Music from "Alcina"; Haydn: Symphony No.28; Mozart: Violin Concerto No. 3 in G major (Fortman, Vienna/Live); Bruckner: Symphony No.3 (Frankfurt/Live)

18.30 Bach: Cantata No.159 (Manniner); Mendelssohn: Psalm: A. Scarlat: Evening Prayer of St. Cecilia

20.05 Purcell: Suite for Trumpet and Organ; Sammartini: Concerto for Soprano Recorder (Michelle Prior, Iona Brown)

20.30 Schumann: Romances, Op.94; Schumann: Violin Sonata, Op.105; Mendelssohn: 6 Duets, Op.63; Bruckner: Quintet in F major

22.30 The Urgy of the Syrian Orthodox Church 23.00 Music from the Distant Past

First Programme

7.30 Favourite Old Songs 8.05 Compas — with Benny Hendei 9.05 Hebrew songs 9.30 Encounter — live family magazine 10.30 Programme in Easy Hebrew 11.10 School Broadcasts 11.30 Education for all 12.

Question: As of June, 109 women have been ordained as Reform and Reconstructionist rabbis. What do you think is the reason for the excitement—in the press and generally—about your ordination as the first woman Conservative rabbi? Is it due to the Conservative movement's being viewed differently?

Answer: There's a set of expectations that in the more right-wing religious bodies, there still is religious inequality for women. So when women are allowed to move forward there, that is very significant—it affects everyone. There's hope for all of us, and there's hope for all of our aspirations.

The degree of media and community attention also conveys the sense that there's work left to be done. If feminism were a closed issue, if we were an egalitarian society, then this kind of event would not engender such excitement. People's excitement seems to be directly related to their own sense of denied aspirations or frustrations along the way, so that another woman's achievement gives women hope in their own struggles.

Q: What has happened in the community in the past 12, 13 years to cause the momentous event of your ordination to take place?

A: I think it was a gradual process of the community's opening its eyes to the fact that while there is still work to be done, women are substantial partners in the society in which we live.

The Jewish feminist movement confronted the Jewish community with the question, "Do you really want Jewish society to lag so far behind the general society in which we live?"

We as a community gradually came to the conclusion that, if anything, we were proud that our Jewishness represents a progressive, ethical outlook, and we had to deal with the fact that the Jewish community seemed to be adopting an inferior ethical stance with reference to the equality of its women.

Those pockets of the community that are still in opposition will be the next educational target.

It is now acceptable if not normative practice in the Conservative movement for a woman to serve as a *shaliach tziyur* (leader of the prayer service)... and to be called to the Torah for an *aliya* (saying blessings). That doesn't mean that every congregation permits these practices.

Just on the level of people getting used to a woman rabbi—"what does she look like, and can she really read Torah, and can she really have a baby and be a rabbi?"—there is work to be done. These questions that seem very simple represent people's profound fears and resistance to change.

Q: How do you feel about changing sexist "God-language" in prayer-books?

A: I am in deep conflict about it at this point. I have a very strong commitment both halachically and emotionally to the traditional liturgy. Traditional Judaism is a very important part of my life.

I have great allegiance to the halachic system, as well. I approach the question of liturgical change with great trepidation and great care. There would be a sense of loss for me—loss of that sense of continuity and that sense of allegiance—if I were to begin to change the language with which I pray.

On the other hand, I am beginning to feel very strongly that God-language is a very much both a reflection of and a prescription for the kind of society that is to be lived on earth. Thus, the fact that all our God-language and imagery is male convinces us every time we speak that language that it is the natural order of things that males be in control.

Most recently I've become aware that to conceptualize God as male and to mean it literally—not just to simply use the language as metaphor because of the poverty of our religious imagination—can only be called idolatrous in terms of Jewish theology.

Q: You spoke of your commitment to Halacha and tradition. When did this begin for you?

A: I come from a Conservative family, one very strongly identified as Jewish, on an ethnic and cultural level; Halacha and ritual observance were not a primary concern in our home.

When I was 14, I went on a United Synagogue Youth cross-country tour. It was my first experience with the traditional Jewish lifestyle: we prayed three times a day, observed Shabbat, kept kosher very strictly.

That was a watershed point in my life. From then on, I got progressively more observant. By the time I entered college, I knew I wanted to be a Jewish educator.

In 1972, I went to Brandeis. The community was tremendously sup-

Womanhood and the rabbinate

If society were egalitarian, Amy Eilberg's ordination in the U.S. last May as the first woman Conservative rabbi would not have been so dramatic, she tells Aviva Cantor.



portive of women's equality and women's aspirations. It was the dawn of Jewish feminism. A very important feature of the community was Hillel Rabbi Al Axelrad—who took particular interest in helping women come into their own Jewishly. In the spring of my freshman year, the first National Jewish Women's Conference was held. My life was changed by that conference.

A woman named Rachel Adler davened there with *tallit* and *tefillin*, and this represented an answer to a question I had been asking. I decided that I would take on the obligations of *tallit* and *tefillin*, these being only an example of that series of *mitzvot* from which women are exempt. I said to myself—and the community—that I rejected the notion that I was exempt and therefore excluded from a certain set of activities simply by being a woman, and that by my repudiation of the exemption status, I had made myself into the type of woman the Halacha would have to see as an equal.

I had a male friend teach me to put on *tefillin*, read, lead services. I began to teach other women to be prayer leaders. Two years later I began to think of the rabbinate.

Q: Wasn't this at a time—1976—when the ordination of Conservative women seemed impossible?

A: The issue was really "underground" at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) in those years; there was a sense of taboo about feminist

issues. I entered the master's programme there in Talmud... The sense was that the more women who were there and who were known to be serious students and serious Jews, the more that would advance the eventuality of ordination.

In 1979, the JTS faculty voted to table the decision indefinitely. I felt such a sense of trauma about the divisiveness of that decision that I believed it would be a generation until the vote would come up again. I said to myself, "Well, maybe someday I'll have a daughter and she'll have a chance, but it may not happen in my lifetime. I was wrong!"

Today I am a rabbinic chaplain at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, and the community rabbi of the Jewish Welfare Federation there with some responsibilities in the area of education.

It's not an accident that I am doing this while thinking about the ways of integrating womanhood and the rabbinate, and that I have chosen a position which is devoid of the showy, distant performance aspects of the rabbinate and very much oriented to intense, intimate people-work.

Q: Do you believe women have a different contribution to make to the rabbinate?

A: I hope very strongly that most of the women ordained at JTS will not feel that in order to achieve legitimacy in their own eyes and in the eyes of

the community, they will have to imitate male models of the rabbinate, but will feel free to explore the connection between their womanhood and the rabbinate.

In the Conservative movement, Halacha is still an important guiding force, so that a completely democratic or egalitarian mode of decision-making is at least partly in conflict with the way the Conservative movement views Halacha—there has to be an oligarchy of the most learned. I don't believe halachic decisions should be made by vote. I do believe poskim (religious arbiters) and rabbis have to listen very carefully to their congregations.

Q: Which brings us to halachic reform. What can be done about women not being allowed to be legal witnesses?

A: I think this problem relates to one's basic understanding of what sort of system Halacha is and how it has evolved over the centuries. The more right-wing position holds to an almost monolithic view of Halacha as a completely unchangeable system. My view very clearly is that Halacha has always been a changing system. Any legal system which can survive tremendous sociological changes must have internal mechanisms for change. The record shows that Halacha contains such mechanisms.

I think that the Conservative movement has resuscitated a more authentic notion of the possibility of

internal development in the Halacha. Its approach is one of defining parameters of the halachic process, rather than insisting that there is one single halachic answer to everything.

I've come to the conclusion, after many years of careful study of the issues in Jewish law, and familiarity with the particular approach represented by the Conservative movement, that Halacha can adapt itself to the feminist challenge as defined in terms of equal access. I include the issue of being a witness—which I consider to be in the realm of the imperative in feminist terms and the realm of the possible in halachic terms for those who are willing to look for that positive answer.

Q: What about the question of divorce?

A: In the Conservative movement, the *beit din* (law court) at the Seminary will call in the couple together if there's a problem in granting the divorce as per the prenuptial agreement, and attempt to persuade a recalcitrant husband or wife.

Q: But still it's the man who signs that document?

A: That's right.

Q: Is there any possibility of changing that? Why can't both sign the document?

A: That would be the sort of change that could not be done within the halachic system... There's no question that the system provides for the unilateral male granting of divorce.

Much as that's uncomfortable and offensive to many of us, those of us who want to continue to work within a traditionalist framework to the extent that we can, have to recognize this and accept it. A woman initiating a divorce is a departure from Halacha, and there are people who are willing to do that, and I can certainly understand why. I would not think that the Conservative Movement would go in that direction.

Q: How can you have allegiance to a system which is totally designed by men and in many cases, such as divorce, is not particularly humane regarding women—women are regarded as property...?

A: For me, the question is, Why blame those human authorities who created rabbinic Judaism for not having been able to anticipate what it took another 2,000 years for human society to develop? I do not fault those rabbis for not having

understood contemporary feminism, although Jewish literature attributes to them a certain degree of divine inspiration.

Rabbinic Judaism is a socio-religious construction put together by human beings who, with all of their wisdom and with all of their abilities to surpass that which was present in their societies, were, like all humans, culturally-bound to a certain extent.

The fact that Judaism was created by men does not detract from the genius of the system, the compelling nature of the system. It does not alter my allegiance to the system.

Q: What impact do you think your ordination will have on the community?

A: I think the decision of the Conservative movement to accept women represents the most powerful statement in favour of women that the movement could have made. The movement could have made pronouncements about believing in the equality of women, but it's when women are actually granted the same rights and privileges in the system and the same symbolic power and legitimacy as men have always had, that women in our country can say, "they really mean that we are to be accepted as partners and that our contributions are welcome."

I think that's why women have been so incredibly excited by the news of the Conservative movement's decision. The message has been sent out in a very clear way that women are being invited to take another step forward, to try to move more fully into the leadership of Federations, and other Jewish communal organizations, across the board, in religious and community life. I think that, in a sense, the leadership of the Conservative movement has sent out the invitation to women to rethink their relationship with the community. And I think women have heard that message.

There's a long-term process that has to evolve from now on, but the groundwork has been laid and I believe that progress will ensue. This is social change, and such changes come slowly. But as I look back at where we've come from at the progress in the last 15 years—it's almost meteoric.

(This article was reprinted with the permission of Lilit magazine.)

Starting to live

Aviva Bar-Am

IT TAKES more than a few kind words to coax a smile out of 10-year-old Tamar, a child who has experienced more pain in her few years than most others do in a lifetime.

At the age of four, welfare authorities took Tamar away from extremely violent, very disturbed parents and sent her to an institution for neglected children. Last year, the courts declared her adoptable and today she lives in a halfway house—caught between a terrible past and a very uncertain future.

She arrived at the halfway house sullen, angry and depressed, with a face which seemed as if it would be forever frozen in despair. She knew no arithmetic and could barely read or write. Her clothes were sloppy and seemed to reflect an utter lack of concern about her appearance.

Tall, plump, with fair skin and freckles, Tamar says she doesn't

remember ever having parents and she pretends hard not to care. When she lived in the institution, and other mothers and fathers came to visit, she says she clenched her fists and told herself, "Who wants parents anyway?"

Although it is still terribly hard for Tamar to talk about her feelings and she hasn't yet learned to trust most other people, she has made astonishing progress during her five months at the children's home. To her teacher's delight, she quickly picked up two years of math; she reads and writes well and can sit alone, concentrating on her work.

Decorative earrings and a

dress are mute evidence that she's begun to care how she looks, and so is the hand which pats her pretty brown hair into place. New bruises all over her legs ("I rolled down the hill—over stones!" she explains) mean she's begun daring to play real kids' games with her new friends at the home.

Yet Tamar is just at the beginning—just starting to live—and she has a long, long way to go. She's still years behind her age group in school and it takes a lot of work to make her your friend. She still smiles only at a very few people, but it's a dazzling smile that completely transforms her pretty, round face.

Lately Tamar has been writing stories with a touching significance about the cyclamen

(*rakefet*) which finds it is no longer alone, for there are other *rakefet* in the world, and about the lovely bud which needs only to be watered before blossoming.

If Tamar were adopted by a family who would love her, hug and kiss her, tuck her in at night with a loving touch—if Tamar were in a home with no other little children around to compete for that affection she needs, so much—perhaps she herself could bloom into a flower. It won't be easy—not for Tamar, and not for the family—but it could work.

Tamar caught my hand as I walked away from the house. "When are you going to start looking for a family?" she asked. "As soon as I can," I replied. "Please," she said quietly, then added shyly, "Could you start today?"

Call Nehama Tal (02) 226957 or 249512, Israel Adoption Services.

Sex and politics

Lea Levavi

many women choose teaching as an easy profession where they do not have to fight to get ahead. Girls are still more likely to be taught sewing in school than electronics; women teachers don't discuss the status of women with their classes; and curricula that have been prepared on equality between the sexes have not been introduced on any major scale.

AFTER Aloni and Cohen bragged about the absence of reserved places or quotas for women in their parties, representatives of those parties which do have women's quotas—Mapam, Labour and Likud—insisted that they got where they were on the basis of ability, but that special consideration for women is still necessary. "It may not be very democratic but sometimes you have to help democracy along," was the way M.K. Miriam Glaser Ta'asa of Herut expressed it.

M.K. Chaika Grossman of Mapam said that everyone is so busy praising her party's acceptance of women that soon it will look as if there is no problem at all. "If things are so wonderful, then why are there only 10 women MKs out of 120?" she wanted to know.

She took journalists, including women journalists, to task for always asking women politicians how they manage at home and whether their children and husbands suffer because of their political activities. "Nobody asks a man politician if his children have problems because he's in politics. Maybe if we stop frightening women by creating the impression that their families will suffer dire consequences if Mother goes into politics, more women will be ready to take the plunge."

M.K. EDNA SOLIDAR (Labour) pointed out that women are not the only group in society for whom political parties reserve places; the same is done for kibbutzim, moshavim, young people, development town residents and others. Dr. Dafa Jazrieli of the Women's Network then



Shulamit Aloni (Ilan Rubini)

asked why there are no women elected within the quotas of any of these other groups. "I was told that would be against my party's constitution," M.K. Miriam Glaser Ta'asa of the Likud (Herut) said, "to which I replied that the party constitution was made by human beings and can be changed. They said such an amendment would never be passed; I said we'll keep trying until we succeed." MK Sarah Doron (Liberal) said she fears women don't really believe they are equal to men, because if they believed it they wouldn't have to keep repeating it so often. She said real political equality for women will come only after they achieve key roles in the economic sphere.

"I realized that in Nairobi, when I spoke to women from Colombia and asked how they come to have such a large proportion of women in their parliament and government. They explained to me that women hold a pivotal role in the coffee industry, which is the country's primary export. In Israel, when a woman finally achieves economic success, it's in fashions, textiles or cosmetics."

Doron urged women not to vote for parties which don't offer women real representation on their lists and in their internal decision-making bodies.

SEVERAL speakers said the

women's MKs and the Women's Network should strive for 25 or 30 women in the Knesset because at that level they could start changing things.

"This isn't a women's issue only," Geula Cohen said, "the whole society, including men, suffers from the lack of the women's touch in politics. We have no less sense than men, but I always say we have more sense and feelings."

Yael Rom of the Likud, who wanted to be mayor of Haifa, brought the discussion back to the grassroots level.

"Women have to join the party of their choice and be active in the local branch," she said, "and they have to come out and vote in party elections... When you want to run, they ask you how many votes you can bring in, whether you're a man or a woman. If you don't have a following, you're out of the game..."

"Eight per cent of municipal budgets go on education and welfare, but when a woman wants to become a mayor they say women can't be mayors because they don't know anything about bridges. Someone would think every municipality builds bridges and is run by a mayor who is a civil engineer."

Former MK Sara Stern-Katan of the NRP walked out of the press conference in a huff when she was told she would get to speak only after the question period. Several participants pointed out that this lack of solidarity among women is typical of the problems along the road to improving the status of women.

One journalist said she was particularly sorry that Stern-Katan had left because she represented the only party in which women had threatened to leave the party and form their own if they were not given representation in party institutions and on the party slate.

CORRECTION: The article entitled "Giving up all hope" on last Sunday's "Today" page should have said that of 96 Down syndrome babies born at Soroka Hospital since 1978 only three were not taken home by their parents. We regret the printing error.

Today is edited by Joanna Yehiel.

Women in the fore

Gloria Deutsch

women who have succeeded in their professions.

The Women's Forum, the first of which was held recently at the Sharon Hotel in Herzliya, was chosen as a way of presenting these women to the public, and an entire cross-section of the town's population turned out to hear them.

The five interviewees, all residents of Herzliya, were Masha Lubelsky, secretary-general of Na'amat; Adina Silberstein, a reserve colonel and chairman of the Nof Yam council; lawyer Pinna Guy; Rahel Kagan, a bank manager; and Rahel Shifron, an industrial psychologist.

Masha Lubelsky detailed some of the recent achievements of Na'amat, including pressing for the extension of retirement age for women to 65 if they wish it.

Working women "are less dependent and more able to control their own fate," she maintained. "Women shouldn't study just to pass the time, but should equip themselves with a profession so they can work if they want to."

Adina Silberstein reached the rank of colonel in her 30 years in the IDF, not as a member of Chen (The Women's Corps), but as an equal partner with male career officers. From her experience in what is, by

her own admission, a man's world, she said that a woman has simply to be better at her job than a man to get to the same level.

"Today young girls are training tank crews, operating radar. However, in the higher echelons, the battle is not yet won," she commented.

Pinna Guy is a state prosecutor.

She joined the Committee for the Advancement of Women because she felt strongly the need to help others reach the position she is in. "I have never felt discriminated against and I don't want equality with men; I think I'm better than they are," she said, which struck a particularly responsive chord among the audience. "I do my job better, both outside the home and in it." She felt that women should improve their self-image and not always be putting themselves down.

Asked if she could remain objective when prosecuting a rape case, she answered that she felt strong emotional ties with the victim and, above all, wanted her story to be believed. She felt it was also easier for the victim to have a female prosecutor.

Rahel Kagan, who has been managing a bank for the last two years, reached a joint decision with her husband that she would be a career woman. At home there's complete division of labour. At work her greatest problem is relating to other women who tend to leave the big financial decisions to their husbands. "Everything seems too complex for them," she says sadly.

She also found that to stay at the top as a woman requires extra effort. "If I fail, people will say it's because I'm a woman; I have to think carefully before I say or do anything."

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South African court to rule on Atlantic Fisheries ships

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The South African Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on March 12 the contending ownership claims to two ships belonging to Atlantic Fisheries, which went into receivership last September 6 after it failed to honour debts totalling \$10m.

At a hearing in the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday, the judge pointed out that jurisdiction lay solely in the hands of the South African court.

After Atlantic Fisheries went into receivership, Dov Weissglass, a Tel Aviv lawyer, was appointed receiver, and on November 19, 1985, the Tel Aviv District Court approved the operation of the defunct company's two vessels by Thruva and Fish Frost, of Tel Aviv.

Both were instructed to bring

Atlantic Fisheries back to a profitable operation and then to begin paying off the principal debtors: a South African group of 58 persons and companies, which had a lien on the two ships for a total of \$1.5m.; the Industrial Development Bank and the Israel Agricultural Bank, which had mortgages of \$1.5m. each on the two ships; and the other claimants, who had unsecured claims. These include Bank Leumi, \$2.5m.; the Maritime Bank, \$500,000, and a company called "Savonarie," registered in Vaduz by Captain Mila Brenner (former head of the Maritime Fruit Carrier line, which went bankrupt in 1976, owing about \$500m.).

Weissglass said yesterday in the Tel Aviv District Court that Brenner had, through a legal stratagem, seized the two ships in South Africa on the grounds that his claims took precedence over all others.

France has payments surplus for first time in six years

PARIS (AFP). — France posted a 3.1 billion franc surplus (\$443 million) in its 1985 current account balance of payments, the first surplus in six years, the economy ministry announced here last week.

The statement said the current account in 1986 could show a surplus of more than 50 francs, noting that a weaker dollar and lower oil prices should accelerate an improvement in the country's external accounts.

The ministry said last year's surplus in the current account, which is a measure of trade in both goods and services, reflected a sharp increase in receipts from the service sector. That hike was partially attributable to tourism earnings, which surpassed 30b. francs.

French businesses and banks borrowed much less abroad in 1985, while the state was able to make ahead-of-schedule repayments worth 13.6b. francs on its external debt.

Total net borrowing abroad came to \$16.5b. francs in 1985, down from 36.1b. in 1984 and 88b. in 1983.

The communiqué said the country's total indebtedness accounted for 10.25 per cent of Gross Domestic Product at the end of last year, compared with 12.35 per cent a year earlier, making France "one of the least indebted of all major industrialized countries."

Total French indebtedness stood at 158b. francs (\$22.57b.) at the end of 1985.

Meanwhile, Spain registered a surplus of \$370m. in its current account balance of payments in January, the first such surplus in five years, the Bank of Spain announced. It said the visible trade deficit narrowed to \$146m. from \$457m. one year earlier.

The January current account figure reflects a 26 per cent hike in dollar-denominated export earnings, and a 33 per cent surge in tourism revenues.

Swiss raise petrol tax to get public to use railways more

BERNE (Reuters). — Switzerland imposed sharp new taxes on heating oil and gas last Thursday and announced plans for a rise in petrol taxes in a bid to cut the budget deficit and promote public transport.

The government's surprise decision went into force immediately at midnight to prevent speculative purchases by homeowners, landlords and middlemen.

The government said the tax on heating oil had been raised from three francs (\$1.60) a ton to 40 francs (\$21), and on gas from one franc (\$3) to 10 francs (\$5.30).

It also disclosed plans to encourage rail travel with reduced prices for regular travellers in order to protect the environment.

A surtax is to be imposed on automotive fuels, starting on April

1, which would add about two centimes (1) to the price of a litre of petrol.

The government was taking advantage of the recent fall in oil prices to make the tax plan less unpleasant.

Petrol prices at the pump have fallen by 12 per cent in the last two months, and a litre of regular petrol now costs under one franc (\$3) at many stations.

Environmentalists praised the decision, but the oil industry reacted angrily.

A spokesman for Esso, one of the leading oil companies in Switzerland, said: "The measures are incomprehensible.... The government wants to force drivers to switch to the railways and people to use less heating oil and more electricity."

Further drop in fuel price expected

By AARON SITNER
The new, lower fuel prices that went into effect at midnight bring local prices to approximately the same level as in Europe, according to the Energy Ministry.

Energy Minister Shahal believes more price reductions are on the way, following Treasury agreement to lower prices in correlation with falling crude oil prices on world markets.

If plummeting crude prices are not matched by lower fuel prices here, Shahal warned yesterday, "not only will Israelis' hopes suffer but also the public's faith in the government's economic stabilization programme."

Following are the new fuel prices, with the old prices in brackets:

Petrol, 96 octane, NIS .96 per litre (NIS 1.01); petrol, 91 octane, NIS .84 (NIS .88); kerosene, NIS .60 per litre (NIS .63); diesel fuel, NIS .57 per litre (NIS .60); cooking gas, per 12-kg. balloon, NIS 9.75 (NIS 11.80); and cooking gas, central service, NIS 2.28 per cubic metre (NIS 2.76).

The last fuel price cut went into effect on February 19.

Law protecting rights of workers 'antiquated'

By DAVID RUDGE
HAIFA. — The Labour Council here has called for amendments to the labour law to guarantee the rights and social benefits of workers in cases of employers going bankrupt.

The council's legal adviser, Yossie Katz, said the existing law is antiquated and more in keeping with the period of the industrial revolution in England.

It did not cater to the needs of workers in today's "new economic reality," when an increasing number of companies are put into the hands of receivers and their assets sold off to cover debts.

He cited the Ata textile company, El Al and the Israel Shipyard as recent examples, where the problem of ensuring full pension rights and severance pay had arisen.

Katz called on the Histadrut's Labour law department to draft proposals which would guarantee rights of workers in such cases, based on the experience gained so far.

Once proposals had been drafted, the Histadrut should then press the Knesset to pass the necessary amendments.

Union need not aid fired worker, court rules

The Histadrut is not obliged to defend every worker who is dismissed from his post but should decide on the merits of a given case, the National Labour Court in Jerusalem ruled yesterday.

The case arose from the dismissal of a payroll accountant who was accused by her employer of criminal activity and dismissed. Representatives of the Histadrut agreed with the employer's accusation and refused to defend the employee.



Used submarines for sale. The French Navy recently auctioned off two decommissioned submarines at Lorient harbour. The "Marsovin" and "Narval" were bought for about \$39,000 each by a naval demolition firm. (AFP)

New ceramic roof-tile plant will cut imports by half

By LIORA MORIEL

BEERSHEBA. — A \$4 million plant making ceramic roof tiles was officially opened here yesterday to supply the needs of the local market and reduce the need for imports. The plant will make 7.5m. roof tiles annually, about half the quantity imported today from Europe, said Danny Schnabel, manager of Koor Industries ceramics division.

The new plant is part of the veteran Hasin Fish factory, which makes fireproof bricks for the steel indus-

try. When the factory was faced with reduced demand and pressure to fire workers, it was decided to diversify instead. The tile plant employs 70 people.

"The problem is that today everybody who wants to can import cheap, heavily-subsidized tiles from Spain and Italy, even though our purpose is to make this unnecessary and save the country some \$7m. a year," said Schnabel. "This is a classic case of importing unemployment from Europe."

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

3.5 per cent of the country's children are raised by only one parent, compared to 20 per cent of the children in the U.S.

Law aiming at balanced U.S. budget goes into effect

WASHINGTON (AFP). — The guideline fell on U.S. federal spending this week as the Gramm-Rudman law, aimed at an eventually balanced budget, went into effect.

The law, signed reluctantly by President Reagan, demands progressive cuts in the huge current federal deficits, ending with a 1991 budget in which spending does not exceed income.

With a 4.3 per cent across-the-board reduction required to save \$11.7 billion in 1986, the cuts affect many services taken for granted by the public — but vast areas of federal spending remain exempt (social security and veterans' pensions, the pay of the armed forces, the "Star Wars" programme).

The cuts have to be shared equally between civilian and military spending, despite the Reagan Administration's determination to continue the U.S. military build-up.

The Pentagon will try to meet its \$51.1 billion economy target by cutting back on day-to-day operations, saving-fuel and postponing personnel transfers.

The Gramm-Rudman law, however, has been challenged in the courts as unconstitutional, and the U.S. Supreme Court is due to hand down a decision in June.

WELCOME. — Incoming tourists are being greeted with a tray set with two avocados, cutlery, salt and pepper — all courtesy of the Tourism Ministry.

Gulf states meet to find joint policy on oil prices

RIYADH (AP). — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani and his counterparts in the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) gathered here yesterday to devise a collective policy on oil production and pricing in preparation for the March 16 Opec emergency conference.

With Yamani were the oil ministers of Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain. Oil is the mainstay of the economies of the six countries, hard hit by the current slump on the world market.

Born in May 1981, the GCC is basically an economic and defence pact grouping the six countries. With the exception of Oman and Bahrain, they are members of the 13-nation Opec cartel.

"The Riyadh meeting is designed to coordinate GCC oil policies at this critical stage in the oil market," said UAE Oil Minister Mansour Oteiba. "The meeting will contribute to creating conditions conducive to enabling Opec to confront this crisis."

GCC officials said that the group concurred with the policy of Saudi Arabia, the world's largest exporter of crude oil, to ensure their share of the world oil market at the risk of the continuing price downside until worldwide cooperation on stabilizing the market was secured.

"We will still see how we can stop the oil prices from plunging," said a member of Bahrain's delegation.

At stake is how to ensure continuity of Opec and avoid a major split

among the cartel members. Iran, Libya and Algeria have criticized the Saudi policy and insisted that all Opec members abide by the cartel's production and pricing system.

Iranian officials have also called for a temporary freeze of all Opec production as a means of pushing up the prices. A Kuwaiti newspaper last week claimed such a possibility was on the agenda of the GCC ministers, but this was quickly rejected as "nonsense" by Kuwaiti Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa al-Sabah.

"This is not an emergency session prompted by the world oil situation," Sheikh Ali told the newspaper *Al-Qabas*. "This is a long-planned meeting which will give us the chance to discuss the current situation on the world oil market."

The GCC officials said the oil ministers would seek a combined strategy to persuade the hardliners that it was in their long-term interest to bear out the current situation until non-Opec producers agree to a new stabilizing formula.

Yamani has said the Opec session would invite non-Opec oil producers to an expanded conference in Geneva on March 18.

The hardliners reject Saudi Arabia's flooding of the oil market as part of its efforts to pressure non-Opec producers to cooperate in defining fair quotas for both sides. Saudi official statements have explained that the kingdom could not continue a policy of self-restraint to the detriment of its own economic development.

U.S. travel to Europe down

LUCERNE (AP). — Tour operators estimate American group travel to Europe will drop by up to 60 per cent this year because of recent terrorist attacks in Europe and the Mediterranean area, the Swiss tourist trade magazine *Travel Intern* reports.

The magazine said a wave of cancellations of already-booked tours followed the hijacking of the Achille Lauro cruise ship and the killings at the Vienna and Rome airports.

It said the decline in Switzerland was forecast to be less marked because the Alpine country has a reputation of being a "security island."

Pius Mueller, regional chairman of the London-based International Association of Tour Managers, said by telephone that last week's assassination of Swedish Premier Olof

Palme was likely to have an additional impact and cause an "almost catastrophic decline."

He said comments by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and what he claimed were exaggerated reports in the American media, had contributed to "false notions" about the situation in Europe.

"Many Americans got worried after Reagan said on television that his friends would not travel to Europe this year. They seem to believe that there are almost warlike conditions in Europe," he said.

Mueller said Americans were turning to what they considered "safer destinations" and cited the Soviet Union as an example. "There is an outright boom for travelling to Moscow," he said.

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	BANK OF ISRAEL Representative Rates
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	1.4801
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	2.1458
GERMANY	MARK	0.6618
FRANCE	FRANC	0.02152
HOLLAND	GILDER	0.03589
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	0.7814
SPAIN	PESETA	0.02052
NORWAY	KRONE	0.2082
DENMARK	KRONE	0.1791
FINLAND	MARK	0.2904
CANADA	DOLLAR	1.0468
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	1.0386
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	0.7430
BELGIUM	FRANC	0.3232
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	0.9430
ITALY	LIRE	0.9733
JAPAN	YEN	0.00237
JORDAN	DINAR	0.1073
EGYPT	POUND	0.8622

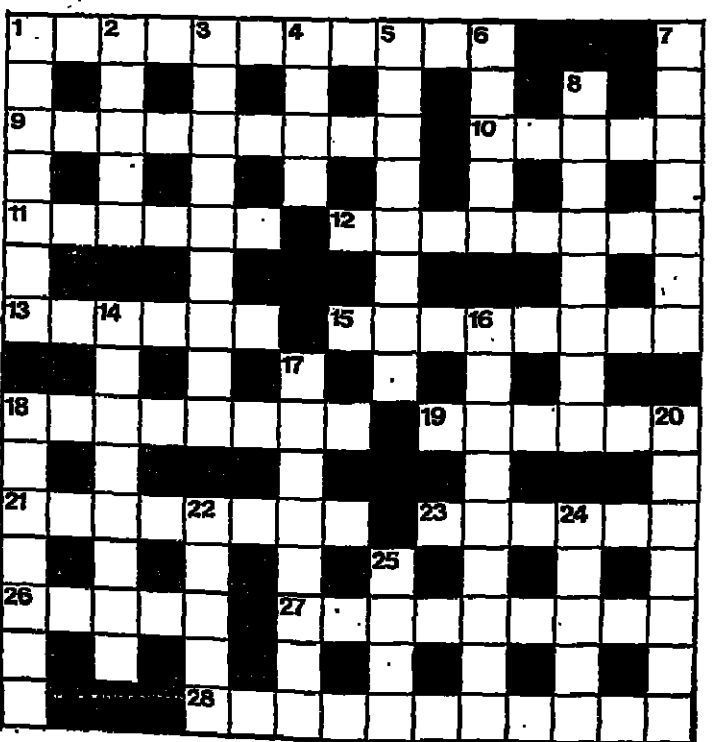
ONE-ON-ONE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Below the standard of a fine meal? (11)
- True, any ambassador could compose Weber's opera (9)
- Intended I object to a busy-body (5)
- Stylish finish in sample (6)
- To whom a thousand dollars is relative (8)
- Injury to painter in a revolution (6)
- May be notable about a cultivated manner of singing (3,5)
- The role I assume as an accommodating person (8)
- See 5
- A what's 24 may change (8)
- Something behind — hurry! (6)
- Nothing badly done in a place of entertainment (5)
- Forgiving about a communication (9)
- Double vision prevalent in clairvoyancy? (8,5)

DOWN

- Suit I've altered proves an eyesore (7)
- Gravity in doleful hymn — lamentable (5)
- Helpful to children's safety, albeit earth-shattering (4,5)
- To give her less would be unfeeling (4)
- 5 & 19 Means one doesn't work for it (8,6)
- Lawman, Scotsman and hostage for Pythias (5)
- Bondsman friend of 8 defended by Portia... (7)
- 8... arranged on a basis for the man she loved (6)
- 14 Fee for one holding a watching brief? (8)
- 16 Victories sought by those about to go on crusades (9)
- 17 To me unusual crimes are fascinating (8)
- 18 How to go about burning up the track, say (7)
- 20 Natural medium for a simple body (7)
- 22 Group covering the rising sun, for example (5)
- 24 Object of a night out (5)
- 25 Article about me is the last word (4)



GENERAL ASSISTANCE

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Tel. Aviv: Lev Ha'ir, 69 Abad Ha'am, 613862; Ziva, 52 Etzel, Sh. Hatikva, 378403.
Netanya: Kupat Holim Clalit, 31 Brodetsky, 91123.
Haifa: Yavne, 7 Ibn Sinal, 672288.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadesah Ein Karem (pediatrics, ophthalmology, E.N.T.), Shaare Zedek (internal, obstetrics, surgery, orthopedics).
Tel. Aviv: Rokah (pediatrics, internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

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Hadera 22333
Haifa 512233
Holon 603133
Mobile intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area around the clock.
101 Emergency phone number in most areas.

"Erm" — Mental Health First Aid, Tel. Jerusalem 227171, Tel. Aviv 2611112, Haifa 672222, Beersheba 618111, Netanya 36316.
Rape Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel. Aviv, 234818, Jerusalem — 245554, and Haifa 88791.
Jerusalem Institute for Drug Problems, Tel. 653628, 653902, 14 Bethlehem Rd.

Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433301 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The National Poison Control Centre at Rambam Hospital, phone (04)529205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in cases of poisoning.

Tel. Aviv: Dental Association clinic 49 Rehov Bar-Kochba, Friday 6 p.m. to midnight; Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tel. 03-284548.

Dental Clinic, 25 Rehov Ahimeir, Ramat Aviv Gimmel, Shabbat and holidays: 8 p.m. — 10 p.m. Weekday evenings: 4.30 — 10, Tel. 03-425632.

POLICE

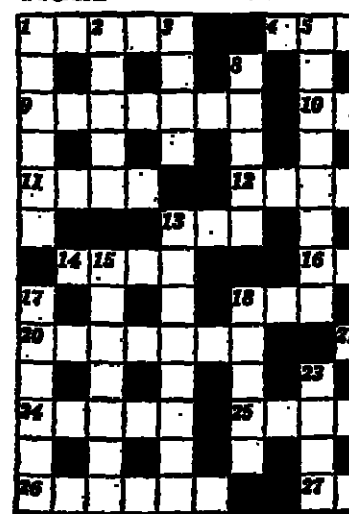
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QUICK CROSSWORD

4 Pairs
1 Person
10 Overturn
11 Paraphrase



15 Think likely
16 Period of time
17 Healing ointment
18 Throw
19 Bishop's diocese
20 Monotonous
21 Facts
22 Terror
23 Fabricate
24 Shining
25 Type of bear

DOWN
1 German composer
2 Unit of length
3 Pastener
4 Casino game
5 Taper handkerchieves
6 Glossy fabric
7 Wide open
8 Main race (anag.)
9 Calendar
10 Place of worship
11 Fishing vessel
12 Ship's captain
13 Coral island
14 Break suddenly

Friday's Solutions

Across: 1. Revolving 5. Dancers 8. Followers 10. Field 11. Shogun 12. Rhythmic 13. Demagog 14. Canon 15. Darius 16. Supremacy 17. Chorus 18. Rending 19. Drive 20. Crediting 21. Down: 1. Refused 2. Value 3. Lacks 4. Serpent 5. Desiring 6. Top-down 7. Universal 8. Sedition 14. Servant 15. Spiller 16. German 20. Manager 21. Sling 24. Slave.

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KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!
REPORT SUSPICIOUS OBJECTS

صلى الله عليه وسلم

SOCCER ROUNDUP

Haifa alone exploit Tel Aviv's draw

By YARON KENAN

With only five minutes play remaining at the Haikva Quarter ground there must have been some crude Bnei Yehuda enthusiasts who were rubbing their hands in glee at the prospect not only of their team handing Hapoel Tel Aviv their second defeat of the season but of scooping a fine pools prize.

Gil Landau and Eli Cohen had other ideas. The league leaders had trailed from the quarter hour on an Eisenberg goal and then David Salzman rubbed their noses further into the dirt four minutes later. But Hapoel staged a sensational finish to grab a point in the match of the day. (See adjacent report). A Bnei Yehuda victory would have been the one big surprise on an otherwise slightly passionless day, and with a million shekels at stake for the first prize on the pools, someone could have been on to a fortune. But the Tel Aviv revival destroyed those millionaire dreams. Now there will probably be a whole host of punters with an all correct pool entry.

Their disappointment will be matched by that of Maccabi Haifa who were at last back to their cheery best with a terrific display that ran game Hapoel Kfar Sava absolutely ragged. The Rosenthal brothers Ronnie and Lior grabbed a hat-trick between them, and Moshe Selektor added the fourth for good measure. The champions would have closed to within just three points of Tel Aviv but for the latter's draw.

Still, as the league takes a one week break and makes way for cup action next Saturday, yesterday's results have at least ensured that there should be an exciting tussle for honours going into the final third of the season. The battle will probably not be resolved until that final clash between the two top sides in the ultimate match at the end of May.

Kicking themselves most vigorously at the failure to exploit Hapoel Tel Aviv's discomfit will be Beter Jerusalem. They were a pallid shadow of the team which tore Haifa apart last weekend, and their goalless draw in Petah Tikva was a drab dismissal from the lower reaches of the memory.

There was, however, excitement



LIFE SAVER - Moshe Sinai

in the game involving the other Jerusalem club Hapoel and the faintest whiff of one surprise from the day's action. 18-year-old Yair Assayag had the distinction to be the first player with his name on the afternoon scoresheet when he ended a useful Aamar-Tashma combination move, ramming home an unstoppable drive from close range in only the third minute.

But only ten minutes later Maccabi Petah Tikva central defender Haim Yehiel leveled things when he hooked home after a corner and a medal. Before the start of the season Hapoel had been engaged in a race with Petah Tikva for the services of the intelligent running striker Rafi Cohen, who had learnt his soccer in the Jerusalem club's youth ranks. Petah Tikva was that race and they were duly rewarded with a terrific effort which sent Jerusalem's useless run into its third month. Cohen picked up a loose ball midway in his own half. He made a marvellous driving, jinking run all the way up field, and stopped only when Arye Bjeran plucked the ball out of his net.

Another side who will be ruing their failure to make up ground on Hapoel Tel Aviv are Maccabi Tel Aviv. They failed to down Jaffa in the National Stadium, and the latter enjoyed not merely a draw, but a point that lifts them above the relegation zone for the first time. At least the miserable 500 crowd had the pleasure of two absolutely sparkling goals, Alon Natan for Maccabi and Menashe Mizrahi for Jaffa.

Three other clubs enjoying useful victories on a slender one goal margin - and thereby extending themselves at least temporarily from relegation worries - are Netanya (who owed their triumph to Benny Luma again), Maccabi Yavne who compounded the troubles of Hapoel Haifa, and Beersheba where Ruben Sallan scored perhaps the goal of the day - a spectacular 25 metre volley that brought back memories of Bobby Robson's great goal at Ramat Gan 10 days ago.

NATIONAL LEAGUE	
Bnei Yehuda	(2) 15
Eisenberg	15
Salzman	19
Mac. TA	(11) 11
Alon Natan	36
Mac. Yavne	(12) 8
Ya'khin	5
Avnirim	(6) 8
Hap. Jerusalem	(11) 3
Assayag	3
Hap. PT	0
Mac. Haifa	(24) 6
L. Rosenthal	14
R. Rosenthal	43.89
Selektor	75
Hap. Beersheba	(11) 1
Sultan	44
Mac. Netanya	(9) 2
Luma	7

Half-time score in parentheses; Names are goal scorers with times of goals scored.

STANDINGS	
After 20 rounds	
1. Hap. TA	11 11 5 35 16 41
2. Mac. Haifa	11 5 4 30 15 38
3. Bnei Yehuda	10 6 5 31 22 34
4. Beter Jerusalem	7 9 4 27 30 30
5. Mac. TA	8 6 6 27 27 30
6. Beersheba	8 6 6 27 27 30
7. Simona	8 6 6 27 27 30
8. Mac. PT	8 6 6 27 27 30
9. Hap. PT	7 6 7 27 27 30
10. Netanya	7 6 7 27 27 30
11. Yavne	7 6 7 27 27 30
12. Kfar Sava	6 6 8 25 27 34
13. Jaffa	7 6 7 27 27 30
14. Hap. Jern	3 12 5 21 32 18
15. Hap. Haifa	4 5 11 13 37 17
16. Sha'arayim	3 7 10 11 34 16

SECOND DIVISION	
1. Bnei Yehuda	8 10 1 26 17 31
2. Mac. TA	4 10 1 26 17 31
3. Hap. Jerusalem	2 10 1 26 17 31
4. Hap. Jern	1 10 1 26 17 31
5. Hap. Haifa	2 10 1 26 17 31
6. Hap. PT	2 10 1 26 17 31
7. Hap. Jern	2 10 1 26 17 31
8. Hap. Haifa	2 10 1 26 17 31
9. Hap. PT	2 10 1 26 17 31
10. Hap. Jern	2 10 1 26 17 31
11. Hap. Haifa	2 10 1 26 17 31
12. Hap. PT	2 10 1 26 17 31
13. Hap. Jern	2 10 1 26 17 31
14. Hap. Haifa	2 10 1 26 17 31
15. Hap. PT	2 10 1 26 17 31
16. Hap. Jern	2 10 1 26 17 31

After 20 rounds	
1. Bnei Yehuda	11 8 1 36 17 31
2. Mac. TA	11 8 1 36 17 31
3. Hap. Jerusalem	11 8 1 36 17 31
4. Hap. Jern	11 8 1 36 17 31
5. Hap. Haifa	11 8 1 36 17 31
6. Hap. PT	11 8 1 36 17 31
7. Hap. Jern	11 8 1 36 17 31
8. Hap. Haifa	11 8 1 36 17 31
9. Hap. PT	11 8 1 36 17 31
10. Hap. Jern	11 8 1 36 17 31
11. Hap. Haifa	11 8 1 36 17 31
12. Hap. PT	11 8 1 36 17 31
13. Hap. Jern	11 8 1 36 17 31
14. Hap. Haifa	11 8 1 36 17 31
15. Hap. PT	11 8 1 36 17 31
16. Hap. Jern	11 8 1 36 17 31

Celtics roll on, beat Knicks 115-108

NEW YORK (AP) - Bill Walton's tip-in in the third quarter began a 21-point run by the Boston Celtics that was decisive in earning them a 115-108 basketball victory Friday over the New York Knicks.

The Celtics were led by Kevin McHale's 28 points, 19 by Dennis Johnson, 16 by Larry Bird and 15 by Walton. Roy Sparrow paced the Knicks with 17.

In another National Basketball Association game, the Philadelphia 76ers were on the short end of a 35-16 third quarter surge that carried the Milwaukee Bucks to an easy 125-106 triumph.

In other games, Atlanta defeated Chicago 112-105, Detroit rolled over New York 104-102, Denver whipped Indiana 124-117, San Antonio humiliated the Los Angeles Clippers 142-126, Utah edged Phoenix 105-103, Portland trimmed Dallas 125-114 and Seattle beat Cleveland 120-106.

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Match Report: Bnei Yehuda 2, Hapoel 2

Sinai's corners save

Hapoel's honour at time

By AVNER MACHTINGER

TEL AVIV. - Two headers from Moshe Sinai corners in the last four minutes of play enabled league leaders Hapoel Tel Aviv to salvage a 2-2 draw against Bnei Yehuda before a full house of 5,000 at the Hatikva Quarter pitch yesterday.

In the 86th minute, with Hapoel 2-0 down and looking well beaten, Sinai floated a corner from the right into the home team's goal area. Several Hapoel players got a touch of the ball before Gil Landau headed it past Ya'akov Assayag. Bnei Yehuda players claimed their goalkeeper had been pushed before the ball crossed the goal line, but referee Moshe Ashkenazi awarded the goal.

Hapoel players were now in full flight as they sensed a chance to save something from this match. In the 90th minute, they won yet another corner. Against Sinai from the right sent an accurate cross into the goal area, and there was the nippy Eli Cohen to nod in his eighth goal of the season. It was the last touch of the game, and saved Hapoel considerable embarrassment.

The five thousand who mostly paid NIS 15 for a ticket considered they got their money's worth in the warm sunshine. In the 14th minute, Moshe Eisenberg, Bnei Yehuda's 18-year-old national youth team cen-

tre forward, opened the scoring. He swerved past defender Yossi Zana before cracking a shot past Arie Alter. A minute later, a shot by Sinai from 18 metres landed in the Bnei Yehuda net but the referee disallowed the goal because of an infringement.

Within three minutes Bnei Yehuda were two goals in the lead. David Salzman, a veteran Bnei Yehuda midfielder, cracked a 30-metre shot at the Hapoel goal and was as surprised as anyone when the effort caught Hapoel goalie Alter napping and ended in the back of the net.

Hapoel increased their pressure on the home defence, which covered tightly around their tall Yaron Adiv and Koby Segal. With the start of the second half, coach David Schweitzer sent on Shabtay Levy for Gaby Lari, and in the 60th minute further added to his attack by bringing on Eli Yanni for Ilan Shukrun. From then on the game became one sided, as Hapoel threw everything they had at the Bnei Yehuda defenders. In the 63rd minute Maurice Janno hit the upright and other Hapoel forwards kept Assayag busy.

But with only five minutes to play none could have predicted Hapoel's final flourish that kept them top of the National League by three clear points.

Everton show character

LONDON. - Substitute Adrian Heath snatched a 77th minute leveller for Everton as last season's beaten finalists set up a replay at home in a dramatic English FA Cup quarter final match at Kenilworth Road.

Mick Harford fired Luton ahead in the 21st minute with his 19th goal of the season and Mark Stein made it 2-0 in the 63rd. But a minute after Stein's strike, a goalbound effort from Everton's Graeme Sharp was accidentally helped into the net by Luton defender Mal Donaghy. Heath, who replaced a defender, the second for the visitor from close range.

First Division Southampton stars booked their semifinal tickets by half time, against their south coast neighbours Brighton. Steve Moran headed the visitors into a 13th minute lead and Glenn Cockerill grabbed the second goal seven minutes before the interval.

Three second half strikes by John Barnes, Colin West and Worrall Stirling earned Watford a quarterfinal trip to Liverpool and dashed the Wolves hopes of Third Division Bury.

Another FA Cup replay, between holders Manchester United and West Ham is being staged today for the benefit of live television.

F.A. CUP

Brighton 0, Southampton 2

Luton Town 2, Everton 2

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Acton Villa 1, Arsenal 0

Chelsea 1, Manchester City 0

Ipswich 1, Notts Forest 0

Liverpool 2, Coventry City 1

Sheff Wed 5, Birmingham C 1

Tottenham 2, West Bromwich 0

Everton 2, Liverpool 0

Man. Utd. 2, Chelsea 0

West Ham 1, Luton 0

Sheff Wed 5, Birmingham C 1

Tottenham 2, West Bromwich 0

Everton 2, Liverpool 0

Man. Utd. 2, Chelsea 0

West Ham 1, Luton 0

Sheff Wed 5, Birmingham C 1

Tottenham 2, West Bromwich 0

Everton 2, Liverpool 0

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Sheff Wed 5, Birmingham C 1

Tottenham 2, West Bromwich 0

Everton 2, Liverpool 0

Man. Utd. 2, Chelsea 0

West Ham 1, Luton 0

Sheff Wed 5, Birmingham C 1

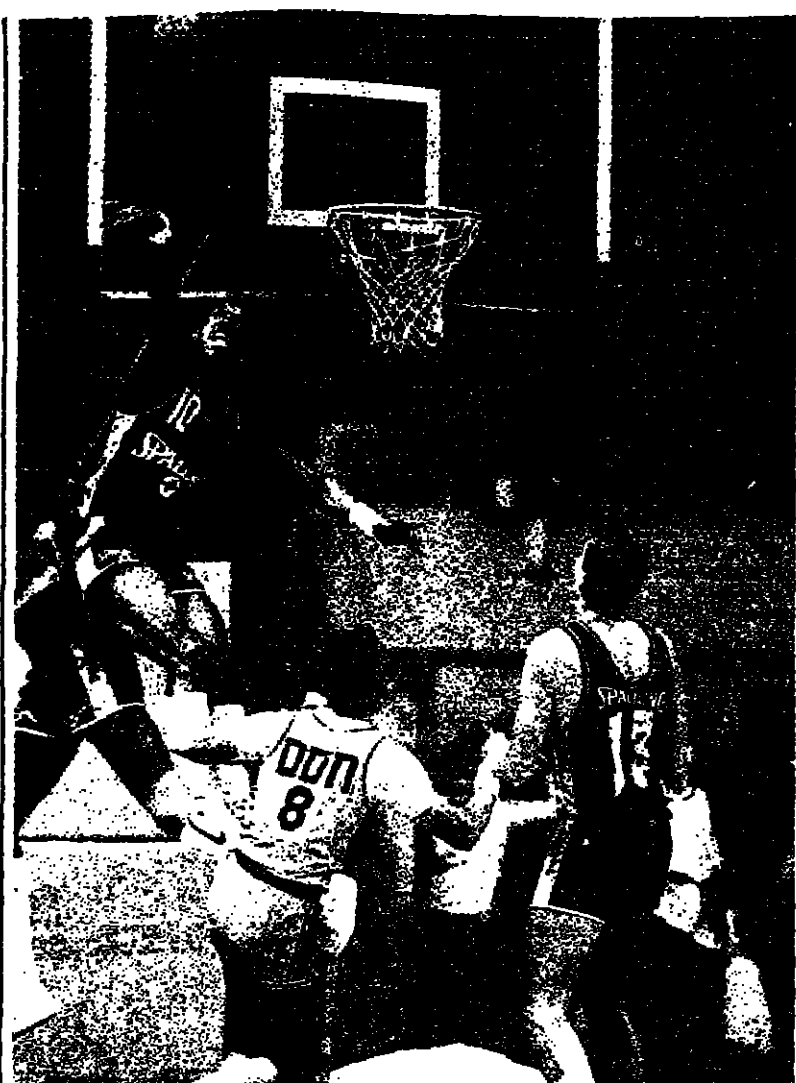
Tottenham 2, West Bromwich 0

Everton 2, Liverpool 0

Man. Utd. 2, Chelsea 0

West Ham 1, Luton 0

Sheff Wed 5, Birmingham C 1



FLOATING. - Elitzur Netanya's Carl Neberson rises high above all opposition as his team springs into the lead in the exciting semi-final playoff series with Hapoel Holon. Having won the first game in Holon last week by two points, Netanya - the surprise packet of the season - aim to wrap up their semi-final round in the second game at Yad Eliyahu on Wednesday night. The champions, Maccabi Tel Aviv, who were in such devastating form on Thursday, should book their place in the final without trouble when they play Hapoel Tel Aviv in their second leg game - also at Yad Eliyahu tomorrow evening. The game has been advanced because Maccabi travel midweek to Italy for the final European Cup game of the season. (Guthmann)

Thrilling finale in Europe

Post Sports Staff

The European Cup final pool climaxes in fascinating manner this week when the last round of games are played in Italy, France and Spain. But for Maccabi Tel Aviv, the only role can be a spoiling one.

The Israeli champs play Simac Milan, who will be desperately keen to win to ensure that they finish with 16 points and leave themselves a fairly good chance of placing second in the final pool.

Also in the final round, Limoges (whose only victory was that over-time win over Maccabi which effectively demolished the Israeli team's prospects of advancing) are hosts to the Cup-holders Cibona Zagreb. If the Yugoslavs win, as they should, then they will automatically be in the final again.

The only team capable of making it directly to the final along with them without bringing the statisticians and actuaries into play are Shalgeris Kovna. Paradoxically, in the end the Soviet champions are unlikely to be in the final at all - Arvides Sabonis notwithstanding. Their last game is in Madrid and Real are unlikely to give up their

prospects of going through by surrendering their usually imposing home advantage. If Kovna lose and Cibona and Simac both win, there will be a three-way tie for second place behind Cibona.

The qualifier is determined on the basis of results involving only those three clubs. Since each would have a 2-2 record, the final decision is based on the points spread in those six relevant games.

That would exclude Kovna, who already have a minus-20 point record (caused primarily by a 29 point thrashing in Italy last month). Milan are plus 19, whereas Real are now plus 1. That means that if Real win by at least 19 points, they will make it to the final and leave Milan behind. If, however, they cannot overcome Kovna by that margin, the Italians go through - provided, of course, they have beaten Maccabi.

In the unlikely event that Limoges defeat Cibona and Maccabi upset Milan, then a whole new set of calculations will be required.

	P	W	L	T	Pts
Cibona	9	6	3	871	838
Kovna	9	6	3	833	820
Real	9	5	4	849	808
Milan	9	5	4	805	762
Maccabi	9	4	5	837	862
Limoges	9	1	8	813	907

Bowls brings etiquette and relaxation to Wingate Institute

By MICHAEL SCHWARTZ

WINGATE INSTITUTE, Netanya.

The game of bowls, made immortal by Sir Francis Drake, the English admiral, who insisted on finishing his rubber in 1588 before deigning to pay attention to the Spanish Armada beating up the Channel, is hardly a sport one associates with the training of young physical education teachers in Israel.

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing Director

THE JERUSALEM
POST

Erwin Frankel
Editor

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Herut faces itself

HERUT's party convention, its first in seven years, which opens tonight, promises to be a heated affair. The principals, Yitzhak Shamir, David Levy and Ariel Sharon failed over the weekend to work out a deal which would have distributed the convention's levers of power between them. Presumably, there will be some last-minute renewed attempts today up to the convention's starting hour.

The contest over control of the convention machinery is, of course, only a reflection of the deeper struggle inside Herut. That struggle is both personal and structural.

Throughout its history, Herut was the party of Menachem Begin. He dominated the party more thoroughly than did any of his counterparts in the country's other political organizations. His leadership and his authority were unchallenged.

With his primacy fixed and undisputed, the party, under his tutelage, adopted democratic usages to arrange the rest of its internal affairs. What the party did not develop, and did not have to develop as long as Mr. Begin was at the helm, was an orderly system for the transfer of leadership. Even Mr. Shamir's accession to party and governmental power, when Mr. Begin stepped down, gained its legitimacy within the party because it bore the latter's authority.

The present convention, therefore, will be the first time that the party will have to fend for itself without Mr. Begin's authoritative magic. It will have to substitute democratic form and democratic content as the sources of legitimacy for its decisions for the legitimacy which in the past Mr. Begin supplied.

And since there is no natural heir apparent for Mr. Begin, as there rarely is for charismatic leaders of his stripe, Herut is confronted by the emergence of a divisive factionalism.

In this contest, Mr. Shamir's age is both his strength and weakness. The other contenders for the party's leadership are not challenging his present status nor his right to take over the premiership under the rotation agreement. But they reconcile themselves to that precisely because they measure his leadership as limited to the two years following rotation. Were he a younger man, they would not lend him such grace.

The real contest of the convention, therefore, is for the succession after Mr. Shamir. The vice premier, with his gritty resiliency, is probably not amused by this penchant to take his retirement from office for granted. But if and when he does take over from Mr. Peres, it will be the dominant factor determining the performance and the relationship between the Likud ministers in his cabinet. He will, in short, be a lame duck premier from the moment he takes office.

That fact cannot be amended by anything that happens at the Herut convention. It would not be amended even if the sparring factions were to come up with some kind of compromise formula today to save the convention from the strife that may otherwise beset it.

The convention will show whether Herut, as an orphaned party, can come of age as a democratic political instrument. The battle for the succession, which will persist after the convention, will show whether the party, after Mr. Begin, can be more than a roof organization for factions and factional leaders in search of political power.

The danger is that the party in its search for a new cohesion or in contending with deepening internal strife may resort to yet more strident rhetoric and more strident politics. And that too, without Mr. Begin's style.

VISITOR SHOT

(Continued from Page One)

The authorities have, however, had several successes in arresting suspects in Jerusalem and Judea in other incidents. Twenty people were arrested after an Abu Tor resident was killed while trying to prepare a bomb. A young East Jerusalem man has been arrested for tossing three home-made bombs at the No. 25 bus travelling towards Neve Ya'acov. He reportedly confessed to the

crime, but was not connected with a terrorist organization.

In Gaza, 20-year-old Tahsin Yahud was injured on Friday afternoon, reportedly attempting to escape from a military patrol. Military sources said a patrol had ordered him to identify himself at the money-changers market on Omar al-Mukhtar Street. The patrol fired at his legs when he fled.

DISCOUNT

(Continued from Page One)

Officials rates. Governments often adjust discount rates to influence economic activity and lowering them usually is an attempt to spur growth. But economists said the latest cuts were intended to enable the Federal Reserve to lower credit costs in the U.S. without altering the relationship between interest rates around the world.

Changes in the discount rate can have widespread repercussions. A

cut could set off a chain reaction, perhaps encouraging banks to lower their prime lending rates and other borrowing charges, analysts said. Interest rates have been retreating in the U.S. amid optimism about the inflation outlook due to the collapse in world oil prices.

Lower rates would also help ease the strains the sharp declines in petroleum prices have put on developing countries, such as Mexico, that depend heavily on export earnings to repay debts to American and other Western banks.

PLO CRITICIZES

(Continued from Page One)

that the organization believed that George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine had been behind the murder of al-Masri. The PFLP last week said it had killed the Nabulus mayor.

Thousands of West Bankers yesterday attended a memorial service for al-Masri at the town's a-Najah University. The heads of leading Nabulus families and teachers from the university eulogized al-Masri and condemned his murder.

Open-mindedness and peace

ARYE NAOR

RECENT developments in Nabulus and Cairo have had an impact on the image of a Middle-Eastern peace which seems more and more unrealistic to policy-makers in Israel and abroad. They, or at least some of them, tend to interpret those occurrences, including King Hussein's speech, as proving that peace is still a long way away. They believe that is a hard fact of international political life, and disregarding it constitutes a dangerous, mystical approach.

Thus, according to their interpretation of *realpolitik*, peace efforts are an outcome of a misperception of the region's objective reality.

But what really matters in political decision-making, both domestic and international, is not the existence of "objective realities" but rather their subjective perceptions, which can turn into self-fulfilling prophecies.

Political leaders will behave accordingly and the prospects of achieving the "unrealistic" peace diminish. Escalation, on the other hand, becomes much more foreseeable.

On the face of it, one could justify the notion that peace efforts were doomed to fail. For more than a year, Egypt demanded that Israel agree to arbitration in the Taba dispute in return for a renewal of the process of normalization. Including the return of the ambassador to Tel Aviv. But the moment the cabinet decided on arbitration, Egypt found reasons to delay the ambassador's return.

Now, after the mutiny of the Egyptian security police, we know the real reason. There are signs that the murder of the seven Israelis in Ras Burka influenced the leaders of

the mutiny. Peace with Israel was not the direct cause of the outbreak in Cairo, but it did play a role in the background. President Mubarak, who considers his country an integral part of the Arab world, has to face a serious problem of political identity if he goes along with the process of normalization.

AT THE same time, Arafat turned down Jordan, Egypt and the U.S. by his continuing refusal to accept Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. The failure to select a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation acceptable both to Israel and the PLO helped to lead to the conclusion that the promotion of peace is now a mission impossible. And after the slaying of Nabulus mayor, Zafer al-Masri, it looks even more impossible.

Since coming to power, Prime Minister Shimon Peres has done his best to promote peace. Nevertheless, nothing has come of his initiatives. Arab leaders are more favourably disposed to Peres than to Yitzhak Shamir, who is due to replace him seven months from now. If Peres who is personally and politically so deeply committed to restart the peace process could not succeed, are there grounds to believe that Shamir will be more successful?

Indeed, the image of the peace efforts as unrealistic seems realistic in itself. But a deeper analysis shows that this is an oversimplification. All that one can conclude is that unless something changes in the political environment or in the perceptions that the main actors have about each

other, the way out of the labyrinth is not known. But it is illogical to conclude that regardless of the circumstances, no solution can be found. Changes in reality can alter images and through a change in the system of images, "objective reality" can be altered.

As early as 1963, then deputy defence minister Shimon Peres said in the Knesset: "The question is whether we should view the world according to our prejudices or in terms of objective reality, and try to obtain the maximum benefit from the political constellation that obtains in the world." But since our own and others' prejudices are also a part of the political constellation which constitutes objective reality, a change in the prejudices can help to change the environment, i.e. that very "objective reality" itself.

OF COURSE, it would be irresponsible to announce that from now on we consider the other side as peace-loving, and therefore we give up all our security conditions and are ready to yield to all the other side's demands. Changes in the system of images must be real and politically meaningful in order to be constructive, i.e. they must be as free as possible of inadequacies arising from prejudices of every kind.

Painting everything pink is not better, from the point of view of realism, than painting everything black.

The correct way is to seek messages to the other side which will contribute to changing its image of the conflict and its participants. The image of the conflict in all its aspects includes perceptions of our intentions, capabilities and options *vis-à-vis* the other side. We have to do something to convince them to change their behaviour, as a result of what might appear to them as changes in objective reality, the perception of which is an important factor in the said system of images.

A prior condition to successfully conveying a message of this kind is a demonstration of our openness, of our readiness to change our own prejudices, images and perceptions once proven inadequate. It is a necessary condition, although not a sufficient one. And we should ask ourselves whether we are capable of doing so. Of course, we should not view the world according to our prejudices. But are we really free of them?

Unfortunately it is doubtful that we correctly evaluate the situation on the strategic level. The fact that until now, the pessimism expressed by the vice premier regarding the prime minister's initiatives was justified does not and should not lead to the conclusion that political realism implies a negative approach to peace efforts. Realistically, no one has proved that what happened in the past will be repeated in the future.

An image of the circle is inadequate for history. Not only dramatic surprises but incremental steps move the world in new directions. If we view reality as static in order to defend our own images from facing the dynamic element which might

change them, we shall miss opportunities to introduce the changes we need to protect our future.

WE SHOULD be ready for a fundamental reassessment of our policy and its perceptual basis. This is a difficult task, from both a political and intellectual point of view. Peres has already proved himself courageous enough to try a new direction besides his own "Jordanian option."

But without real cooperation from Labour's national unity coalition partner, the Likud, a reassessment cannot be undertaken in a serious manner. The political polarization of Israeli society means that only a government of national unity can overcome the difficulty of reassessing the basis of the policy. But for such an undertaking, a political party should be internally stable and its leaders sure of themselves and their status.

Due to current circumstances inside the Herut party, however, one may doubt if there is a basis for such a hope. Facing the danger of disintegration, a political party usually adopts the positions of its most extreme wing. Thus the bitter escalation of Herut's long war of succession has indirect, but significant implications for national policy-making.

The unlikelihood of a successful peace process is not an expression of creative wisdom. Nevertheless it may become a self-fulfilling prophecy. Everybody will act accordingly, and then...

The writer is a former secretary to the cabinet.

THE PURIM JEWS

GERSHOM GORENBERG

So if you want to be a Jew for Purim, it's best to get a hat and coat. If you're strapped for time or cash, though, a kipa will do, particularly a large one.

THESE DAYS, though, it seems that many people are starting Purim early, or celebrating it all year round, dressing up as Purim Jews, teaching Purim Tora.

In the Knesset, for example, they're telling us that Judaism needs a special exemption from a law against racism. The Bible and the prayerbook, some could say, are racist, and might get one arrested otherwise.

In the territories, the Purim crowd

has been claiming for years that preventing any kind of peace settlement is the essence of Tora. A few years back, their special effects crew put some mean party-poppers in mayors' cars to demonstrate their point.

According to the police, here and in the U.S., some Purim Jews may have supported yeshiva by padding their bills to the government or laundering money for the Mafia.

The hard-core Purim gang hangs out in Mea She'arim. Some of them recently put up a wall around a Reform rabbi's grave on the Mount of Olives, teaching the Purim Tora that his bones defiled the graveyard. Now they are putting up Purim post-

ers in their neighbourhood, calling for protests against meetings between Jewish and Arab schoolchildren. "Rachel and Ahmed, Ya'acov and Fatima" will marry as a result of such sessions, the signs say. Jews will assimilate.

ALL OF THIS stands Judaism on its head. It has as much relation to Tora as a caricature of a Jew by one of *Pravda's* cartoonists has to the real thing. Rather than being racist, the Tora teaches that all human beings are descended from one father and one mother, and are created in God's image. At least according to what we learned in our yeshiva, you don't study the Tora, "whose ways are pleasant, and whose paths are

peace," by stealing, laundering cash for killers, or blowing people up.

Before every day turned into Purim, everyone knew this. Everybody also knew that in a country where Jews are the majority, they don't have to hide in a ghetto, fearing assimilation.

The worst thing about a Purim play, like any farce, is the subtext: the audience who thinks it's meant to be serious drama. He can't understand why Queen Esther has a beard, and King Ahasuerus is wearing a jama. He walks out in disgust, saying, "What an ugly queen, what a lousy king."

The worst thing about Purim Jews is that they might fool us. Just because they dress the part, we might mistake them not only for Jews, but for religious ones. Because they quote scripture, we might think they are teaching real Tora, instead of the opposite of it. We could end up hating Judaism and Jews.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

READERS' LETTERS

ELECTORAL REFORM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - The article by Allan E. Shapiro, "Missing an opportunity," calling for electoral reform (February 5) points to what is probably the most important political action that the two parties can take without interference from the midgates that hinder them at all times. It is incredible that Likud and Labour have not already taken the steps necessary to rid themselves of the intolerable obstruction the whole process of government suffers from.

The Committee of Concerned Citizens has been prodding politicians for this action, but only a few of them appear to be interested. Are the others afraid they might lose their securities if Knesset members were elected on their merits?

H. WOLIFSON

Netanya.

KAREI DESHE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - As one of those who fought (and lost) the battle for retaining Karei Deshe, may I thank Helga Dudman for her sensitive article of February 12 about our much loved Karei Deshe youth hostel.

I would only like to add the following fact to alleviate the sadness of the farewell: about 800 metres south of the present site, on the shore of the lake, we are planning a new hostel, partly financed with the help of the German Catholic Church. The Church is also providing the land, and the Israel Lands Authority the infrastructure. Management will be in the hands of the Jordan Valley Regional Council and the Israel Youth Hostels Association.

The new hostel should be ready in 1988, and we shall do everything to make it beautiful and not less loved than the old one which, until then, will continue to receive guests with open arms.

WALTER KATZ
Hon. President, Israel YHA Jerusalem.

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VOLUNTEER WORK LOAD

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - I am a volunteer worker in a kibbutz. I came to your beautiful Israel to experience your culture, meet your people and see your country. You may see me as an ambassador from my own country.

In the kibbutzim around your country, volunteers are now required to work eight hours a day, six days of the week. I have not seen your beautiful country. I see little of your people. I have had little experience of your country.

All volunteers need some free time. We work hard on the kibbutzim. We appreciate the economic

HAM SANDWICH

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - In reply to Yosef Goell's statement in "Social dynamite" (February 17) that "to the best of my knowledge no one has ever died of eating a ham sandwich," I regret to inform you that such a death did occur several years ago in the United States.

The well-known American pop singer, Mama Cass (Cass Elliot) of the "Mamas and the Papas", who happened to be a secular Jew, choked to death while munching contentedly on a ham sandwich.

This rather spectacular coincidence may have inspired more than a few of us to review our disregard for the ancient, time-tested laws of *kashruth*.

ELLEN L. JAFFE

Jerusalem.

problems of Israel which may have influenced such a rigorous ruling. But, please remember that we are here only for a short period of time. Volunteers need to see as much of Israel as they can, not just the fences of an isolated kibbutz by the light of the moon.

I feel that I must question the recent decision of the kibbutz movement to introduce severely increased working hours. It is my sincere hope that an appropriate review of the situation can be taken by the kibbutz organization.

GABBI, Volunteer from Australia (Name and address supplied.) Jerusalem.

'POOP-SCOOPS'

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - As a tourist and international tour director, I draw your attention to an eyesore in the streets of Tel Aviv, namely the shocking fouling of dog excrement in superabundance all over the sprawling metropolis of Tel Aviv.

In New York City, dog owners are legally bound to carry a "Poop-scoop" to clean up the dog's "business" and heavy fines are imposed for contravention of the city's strict by-laws.

As an animal lover who has several pet dogs in England, I urge Mayor Lahat to do something in order to clean up this mess.

BORIS RACHAIOVICH

Tel Aviv (London).

SHAMEFUL AGREEMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - The main purpose of the national unity government is and was supposed to be to treat the economic situation, principally by cutting the budget. Now we discover that, according to Energy Minister Shahal (February 11), there is a secret coalition agreement to enlarge the directorates of state corporations and institutions to admit more party representatives - with healthy salaries and benefits at public expense, of course.

Apparently budget cuts are for pensioners, widows, the poor, etc. not for politicians and their friends. Since our leaders are ashamed of what they are doing, their agreement is kept secret, and there is no way to force them to publish agreement which defraud the public. The sense of shame is fully justified.

MICHAEL GREENGARD and 13 friends

Holon.

RABBIS AND CHROMOSOMES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - I understand that the Beersheba Rabbinical Court has permitted a man to marry a second wife because his first wife cannot bear him sons, although the man has three daughters.

I pity the man and the Beersheba Rabbinical Court. Obviously, although their bodies are forced to live in the 20th century, their minds belong in the Middle Ages.

I suppose that, ignorant as they appear to be, they consider the X and Y chromosome theory a nasty Christian concept. Accepting it and thereby proving that the husband and not the wife was the cause of the wife's so-called inability to bear him sons would be disgraceful.

MRS. DANIEL MANDELBAUM

Ferndale, Michigan.

LEGHORN CEMETERY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - The Jewish cemetery at Leghorn in Via Filizi is in a state of great disrepair. It is absolutely necessary to carry out some urgent repairs, the estimated cost of which amounts to approximately 20m. Italian lire. Since this amount cannot be covered by the community budget, a subscription for the cemetery has been opened. I would request a generous donation from all those who have relatives buried in our cemetery. Together with the donations from the local community, we will then be able to start the repairs.

These contributions may be credited directly to our community, Comunita Israelitica di Livorno, Postal Current Account No. 15307572, or to Current Account No. 01385077, Bank Cassa di Risparmio Livorno.

RABBI ISIDORE KAHN

Leghorn.

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